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ENVOY DISCUSSES SHEVARDNADZE VISIT WITH KAPITSA

OW310121 Tokyo KYODO in English 0113 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow, Dec. 31 KYODO -- Japanese Ambassador Yasue Katori Monday called on Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa and discussed the upcoming visit to Japan by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other bilateral matters, Japanese sources said. During the one-hour talks, Katori said the Japanese Government is well prepared to welcome Shevardnadze to Tokyo, with Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe having retained his post in a cabinet reshuffle last weekend. Kapitsa reportedly told Katori that he hopes Shevardnadze's visit will be fruitful for both sides. A good atmosphere should be created to that end, he said. But he went on to criticize some recent Japanese news reports for "threatening to destroy" the atmosphere, the sources said. Kapitsa did not specify the news media or subjects involved.

Shevardnadze is due to arrive in Tokyo January 15 as the first Soviet foreign minister to visit Japan in 10 years. On the Japan-Soviet fishery talks in Moscow, Katori regretted that the two countries had suspended the negotiations Sunday after failing to reach agreement on 1986 catch quotas in each other's 200-mile economic waters. Kapitsa said a solution hinges on what attitude Japan will take, asking Japanese fishermen to "change the way of thinking," according to the Japanese sources.

PROVISIONAL FISHING ACCORD REACHED WITH USSR

OW310857 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union Monday reached a provisional agreement to allow their fishing boats to continue operations in each other's 200-mile economic zones for five days until Sunday, according to reports reaching the Fisheries Agency. The reports said that the two countries the same day suspended bilateral fishery talks aimed at deciding 1986 catch quotas, following a Soviet request that Japan pay a "cooperation fee" for operations inside the Soviet 200-mile zone. But the two nations will resume the talks Thursday in a bid to reach a final agreement before the provisional accord expires on Sunday, the reports said.

The provisional agreement applies only to Japanese and Soviet fishing fleets operating in each other's zones as of midnight Wednesday under fishing arrangements observed in 1985, the reports said. Agency officials believe that only a few Japanese fishing boats will remain in the Soviet economic zone under the provisional agreement since most of the 300 or so Japanese boats operating there will return home temporarily for the New Year holiday. But some 40 large-sized Russian fishing vessels now operating in the Japanese zone will remain, under the same provisional agreement, they said. If the bilateral talks, to be resumed Thursday, do not reach an agreement by the time the provisional pact expires on Sunday, most of the Japanese fishing boats that return home for the New Year's holiday will lose their right to operate in the Soviet zone, the officials added.

U.S. FISHERY PLAN 'BASICALLY' ACCEPTABLE

OW310517 Tokyo KYODO in English 0453 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO -- U.S. Ambassador to Japan Mike Mansfield has proposed that Japanese boats fishing Alaska pollack and other fish inside the U.S. 200-mile economic zone be allowed to continue operating in January on condition that Japan agrees to resume negotiations on salmon fishing in the north Pacific.

Mansfield made the proposal Tuesday in a meeting with Tsutomu Hata, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The proposal calls for a provisional fishing quota equivalent to one month's normal catch by Japanese boats. The quota will be allocated around January 2. Hata expressed Japan's basic acceptance of the plan.

Bilateral negotiations on salmon fishing are due to be resumed in Seattle in the new year. The U.S. has proposed cutting 1986 overall catch quotas for Japanese boats by some 375,000 tons from the previous year to a maximum of 525,000 tons. Japanese boats are expected to be allowed to catch 20,000-30,000 tons in January.

In reply, the Fisheries Agency told the U.S. Government through the American Embassy that Japan will resume talks on January 8 or 9, if the U.S. Government intends to allot catch quotas sufficiently large not to affect fishing operations by Japanese boats for Alaska pollack and other fish. The Japanese Government will dispatch Hiroya Sano, director general of the Japanese Fisheries Agency as its representative.

ISHIBASHI 'READY' TO MEET PRESIDENT CHON

OW310911 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO -- Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), said Tuesday he is ready to meet with South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan if it is desired by South Korean opposition forces. Ishibashi plans to visit Seoul in the near future, an action marking a major departure from the JSP's previous policy toward the Korean peninsula. In the past, the JSP, Japan's largest opposition party which has had close relations with the communist government in North Korea, has banned its national assemblymen from visiting South Korea. Some JSP members say they are not pleased with Ishibashi's visit to Seoul.

In an interview with the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK), Ishibashi said, "If opposition forces in South Korea desire (an Ishibashi-Chon meeting), that would be good." Ishibashi said his planned visit to South Korea will be the primary topic of discussion during talks between JSP leaders and delegates from South Korea's New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) in Tokyo in January.

SPECIAL CABINET SESSION APPROVES BUDGET

OW280635 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO -- The government Saturday adopted a austere 54.09 trillion yen budget with particular emphasis on national security at the expense of social welfare and other domestic programs. The budget, approved at a special cabinet meeting, calls for a slight cut in general expenditures or actual fiscal spending from the 32,585.4 billion yen originally set for fiscal 1985 to 32,584.2 billion yen. Fiscal 1986 will be the fourth consecutive year in which net spending declines from the preceding year.

Most categories in general expenditures were cut back from the current fiscal year levels, but national defense spending and Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries escaped cuts, gaining 6.58 percent to 3.34 trillion yen and 7 percent or to 622 billion yen, respectively.

Japan's defense budget has shown a conspicuous gain in the past four years as the United States pressed Japan to shoulder more defense responsibilities in Asia. Fiscal 1986 defense spending, which will account for 0.993 percent of the projected gross national product (GNP) for the year, barely remains under the level set by a 1976 cabinet decision to hold Japan's defense budget below 1 percent of the GNP.

The overall budget, which also covers subsidies to local governments and debt servicing costs such as redemptions and interest payments on government bonds, represents an increase of 3 percent from fiscal 1985. The budget will be submitted to the Diet when it reconvenes after the new year recess.

The government also set aside 22.6 trillion yen for the fiscal investment and loan program — a companion budget financed by postal savings and other government—controlled revenues — for a 6.2 percent gain over fiscal 1985. Under the new budget, it will be difficult for the government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to fulfill its avowed target of stopping the issuance of deficit—financing bonds by fiscal 1990. In an effort to reconstruct deficit—ridden national finances, the government was hoping to cut new bond issues by 1 trillion yen but the budget calls for 10.95 trillion yen worth of bond offerings in fiscal 1986, a drop of 734 billion yen over fiscal 1985. The balance of national bonds will thus amount to 143 trillion yen at the end of fiscal 1986 against approximately 135 trillion yen expected at the end of fiscal 1985.

Mirroring tight fiscal conditions, the budget is expected to place a bigger financial burden on the public as it calls for increases in cigarette tax, national railway fares, tuitions at national universities, rice prices and medical frees charges to the aged.

Social security outlays were given a token 2.7 percent increase to 9.83 trillion yen, of which outlays for social welfare were slashed by 5.4 percent to 1.9 trillion yen. The budget also features government efforts to spur the domestic economy, although it calls for a 2.3 percent cut to 6.22 trillion yen in public works spending, an important budget ingredient with a major pump-priming effect. The government managed to secure a 5 percent increase in overall public works spending in fiscal 1986, aided by increased funding from fiscal investment and loan programs and private-sector finances. Behind the need for increased public works spending are slowing exports to the United States and possible adverse effects on the economy of the yen's upturn against the dollar since late September.

On the revenue side, the government assumed modest gains of 5.2 percent in tax revenues, set at 40.56 trillion yen, and 13.8 percent in nontax revenues excluding those from new bond issues, set at 2.58 trillion yen. The assumptions were based upon the government's official economic outlook for fiscal 1986, which foresees an inflation-adjusted growth of 4.0 percent in Japan's economy, down from an estimated 4.2 percent in the current year.

ECONOMISTS PREDICT SLOW ECONOMIC GROWTH

OW310141 Tokyo KYODO in English 0045 GMT 31 Dec 85

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 31 KYODO -- In contrast to guarded government optimism, a majority of private-sector economists predict the Japanese economy is heading for the slowest growth in a dozen years in fiscal 1986 as the yen's higher value pushes down exports. Counting on solid gains in consumer spending, capital investment and other aspects of domestic demand, the government projects an inflation-adjusted 4.0 percent growth for the new fiscal year, beginning April 1, following an estimated 4.2 percent growth in fiscal 1985.

"I think it will be difficult to attain it even if the government gives considerable fiscal support," says Kazuho Toyoda, economist at the Nomura Research Institute, a leading private think tank affiliated with Japan's largest securities firm.

"Without the 1.5 trillion yen or 6.9 percent nominal increase in public works spending assumed in our economic projection," adds Toyoda, "there is a good possibility of the (fiscal 1986) growth rate falling below 3 percent." Nomura foresees a 3.3 percent growth. Of 30 major private Japanese think tanks and financial institutions which have come up with fiscal 1986 projections, two-thirds forecast a rate of 3.1 percent or less, the slowest growth since the Japanese economy contracted 0.4 percent in fiscal 1984 in the aftermath of the first oil shock. The private growth forecasts range from 2.0 percent by Tokai Bank to 3.9 percent by Daiwa Securities Co.'s research arms.

Three project a 3.2 percent growth -- a figure matching the fiscal 1982 level, so far the slowest pace since fiscal 1974 -- and about a quarter foresee 3.3-3.9 percent rates. The Economic Planning Agency (EPA). which mapped out the official projection, says that a lower inflation stemming from the stronger yen and lower crude oil prices will permit a boost in real income of consumers, contributing to a 3.6 percent rise in personal consumption as projected for fiscal 1986. It predicts a 7.5 percent increase in capital spending by business because the stronger yen's deflationary impact will be cushioned by a steady rise in R and D investment, wich is not affected by export trends, according to senior EPA economist Masashi Kato.

Coupled with tax incentives for homebuilding budgeted for the new fiscal year, these domestic factors will steer the Japanese economy toward the projected 4.9 percent growth, Kato says. But Nomura's Toyoda disputes all these arguments. Business capital spending, for example, is not likely to rise as strongly as projected by the government in view of slowing corporate earnings growth, Toyoda says. When the yen appreciated to a record high of around 176 yen to the U.S. dollar in 1978, Japanese companies were able to offset some 70 percent of export earnings drops resulting from the yen's rise through price markups.

Price hikes were accepted largely because they were swallowed by a high inflation rate — then running at some 14 percent annually in the U.S., the largest export market for Japan — and steady economic expansion abroad (the U.S. economy was growing at a 9.5 percent annual rate). But this time, Toyoda says, the exports climate is far harsher, U.S. inflation lower and its economy slowing, allowing no substantial price increases. Consumer spending is unlikely to rise strongly given prospects of a low pay raise next spring, he says. And the already low inflation rate is projected to show no further sharp slowing, meaning no sharp rise in real, or inflation—adjusted, income in the coming year.

Some private economists warn that sluggish domestic demand could divert businesses' attention to exports, once again fattening Japan's trade surplus. To avoid such an eventuality, the government will have no choice but to stimulate domestic demand by boosting public works investment, they say. In this connection, the Nomura economist suggests that the government reduce bonds purchased under its fiscal investment and loan program, a companion budget financed by postal savings and other officially controlled funds.

The reduced portion is sold in the bond market, which is buoyant enough to absorb it, and the funds thus made available can be used for public investment. He says the measure will allow fresh stimulus to domestic demand without an additional burden on the deficit-ridden budget.

Despite their disagreement on growth rates, government and private economists share the view that Japan's massive trade surplus, a source of strained trade relations with the U.S. and other major trading partners, will not decline appreciably, because of delayed impact of the yen's appreciation on the export front. The government projects a 56 billion dollar surplus against an estimated 58 billion dollar surplus in fiscal 1985. The continued massive surplus is expected to trigger renewed calls from Japan's trading partners, notably the U.S., for more action to expand domestic demand.

Some government leaders, including Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, doubt that the projected 4.0 percent growth can be achieved under the lead of stronger domestic demand. But with an eye to next May's Tokyo summit of leading industrial democracies, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has wanted the growth projection to be set as high as possible to show Japan's resolve to divert its economic energy from exports to domestic demand, aides say. Domestic demand is projected to more than offset an expected drop in net exports. If that scenario fails, the Nakasone government may be forced to take sweeping pump-priming measures at the risk of abandoning the prime minister's avowed policy of terminating the flotation of deficit-covering bonds in fiscal 1990.

LDP'S KANEMARU OPPOSES SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS

OW300829 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] In an interview with NHK today, LDP Secretary General Kapemaru responded negatively to the possibility of holding elections of both houses simultaneously next summer. He said that the justification for such elections is questionable.

[Begin Kanemaru recording] Some people ask me: Secretary General Kanemaru, you seemed to have been considering conducting elections of the Houses of Representatives and Councilors simultaneously, but have you changed your mind now? However, as we become wiser — we are not children — we have come to realize that it is legally impossible to conduct them without justification. Taking all factors into consideration, it is beyond question that it is impossible to conduct them without justification. [end recording]

The LDP secretary general thus showed a negative attitude toward the possibility of simultaneous elections of both houses next summer.

Regarding the Diet seat reapportionment issue, Kanemaru stressed that House of Representatives Speaker Sakata should take the lead in finding a solution. However, Kanemaru added that parties should exchange views on the outline of the reform before setting up a 3d-party organization as proposed by Prime Minister Nakasone. Kanemaru thus indicated support for the view that the government and opposition parties should hold talks among their secretaries general at the earliest possible date.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON KANG SONG-SAN VISIT TO USSR

Banquet Held 24 December

SK280010 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The Soviet Government arranged a banquet at the Kremlin on 24 December for Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, on a visit to the Soviet Union. Invited to this banquet were the premier of the Administration Council and his entourage.

Attending the banquet were Comrades Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Yegor Ligachev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; Eduard Shevard-nadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; Eduard Shevard-nadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister; Nikolay Talyzin, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers, including Comrade Vsevolod Murakhovskiy; ministers; chairmen of committees; and responsible functionaries from party and government agencies and social organizations. Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov, and Premier Kang Song-san spoke at the banquet. The banquet proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Ryzhkov Banquet Speech

SK261326 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Speech by Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at a banquet hosted at the Kremlin on 24 December by the Soviet Government for Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council -- read by announcer]

[Text] Respected Comrade Kang Song-san and respected comrades: On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, I heartily welcome Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, and the Korean friends present here.

The peoples of the Soviet Union and the DPRK are closely linked by relations of friend-ship, mutual assistance, and cooperation. The common goal in the struggle to build a new society and to achieve peace and social progress has united us. This is the main point defining the political contents of the contacts between the leaders of our two countries, which have become much more frequent in recent years, assuming a beneficial nature. And, no doubt, the both sides attach primary importance to the complete implementation of agreements reached at the highest level during the visit to the Soviet Union last year by a DPRK party and government delegation led by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

The talks that began today are being held in an atmosphere of comradeship, reciprocity, and friendship. Therefore, we expect with all certainty that the talks will mark an important milestone in developing relations between us and will lay a good foundation for further developing reciprocal economic and scientific and technical cooperation during the period from 1986 to 1990 and in the future as well.

We have had many experiences in our cooperation. How effective the joint efforts of the Soviet Union and Korea are can be seen in tens of projects of the people's economy that have been inaugurated in the DPRK with Soviet cooperation, serving as the core in the power, metallurgical, machine manufacturing, and other economic sectors.

Cooperation has developed in the fishery, agricultural, and forestry sectors. In light of good prospects for further strengthening multilateral ties, we are now studying a series of important questions on cooperation, including the rendering of technical cooperation for the construction of new enterprises in the DPRK and the development of cooperative production and socialist international specialization.

Soviet-Korean cooperation will much more greatly contribute to the cause of building socialism in the two countries. Our meeting with the Korean comrades is being held at a significant time -- on the eve of the 27th CPSU Congress. The effort of the party and all the Soviet people is directed toward implementing the strategic CPSU policy for promoting the country's socioeconomic development on the basis of comprehensively achieving scientific and technical progress. This cause envisages new prospects and possibilities for cooperation with fraternal socialist countries. This is proven by the fact that a special meeting of the CEMA general assembly has just been held in Moscow, at which a comprehensive plan for scientific and technical progress in CEMA countries by 2000 was adopted. This plan reflects the peaceful nature of our cooperation and the interest of socialist countries in consolidating peace as a whole.

The greatest event in the international arena was the summit talks held in Geneva between the Soviet Union and the United States. International social circles have highly appreciated the constructive Soviet stand for resolving the key problems of the present age — such as ending the arms race and removing the threat of a nuclear holocaust. We express thanks to the Korean comrades for supporting the foreign policy-oriented effort that the Soviet Union has exerted in this regard.

What is especially worrisome for our two countries is the situation in Asia where nuclear weapons were used 40 years ago for the first time. The military activities of the imperialists have been remarkably strengthened in recent years. Military potential has continuously increased in areas near the borders of the Soviet Union, the DPRK, and other socialist countries in Asia. Military cooperation has expanded among the United States, Japan, and South Korea, further assuming the nature of a bloc. The trend of militarization has been strengthened in Japan, causing concern among the Asian people.

Greater quantities of nuclear missiles have been accumulated in South Korea. Tension has been heightened in other areas of Asia. Now is the time for a package solution to the problems of Asian security. Just as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, the essence of the issue is for all Asian countries to join efforts to guarantee peace and security.

The peaceful policy of socialist Korea has played a great and affirmative role in the struggle to improve the situation in the Asia and Pacific region. DPRK proposals envisaging the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea and the conversion of the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone have evoked a broad response throughout the world. Your proposals for replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, for adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and South, and for holding parliamentary talks, and your other steps for normalizing the situation and easing tension on the Korean peninsula have won full understanding and support in the Soviet Union.

We consider that the DPRK's proposal for achieving the country's peaceful reunification is directly related to the Soviet proposal for a package solution to the Asian security problems. If an atmosphere of mutual trust and peace is provided on the continent, this atmosphere will contribute to resolving national problems in Korea.

The Soviet people value relations of friendship and unity that have been firmly consolidated through a joint struggle to achieve freedom and independence and through the treaty for friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between us, who will greet the 25th anniversary of the signing of this treaty next year. I assure the dear Korean friends that the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government will exert every possible effort to further strengthen and develop useful ties with the WPK and the fraternal Korean people on the basis of the firm and invariable principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian socialist internationalism.

In conclusion, Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov heartily wished DPRK workers great success in the struggle to implement the decision of the Sixth WPK Congress under the tested leadership of the party Central Committee led by Comrade Kim II-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK, and expressed a firm belief that friendship and fraternal cooperation between the CPSU and the WPK and between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the DPRK will be strengthened.

Kang Banquet Speech

SK270911 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Speech by Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, at a banquet hosted by the Soviet Government at the Kremlin in Moscow on 24 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] Respected Comrade Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov, respected guidance comrades of the party and the Government of the Soviet Union, and comrades:

It is our pleasure to have this opportunity to meet with the close Soviet comrades, again visiting the Soviet Union, a fraternal neighbor, at the kind invitation of the Soviet Government. We express our sincere thanks to you for your warm greetings and hospitality. We are visiting your country at a time when the friendship and cooperative relations between the countries are expanding and developing to a new higher stage in accordance with the spirit agreed upon at the summit talks held when the respected leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song visited the Soviet Union last May.

This year, friendly exchanges and mutual cooperation have been carried out between our two countries more actively than ever before. The peoples of the two countries vigorously demonstrated the invincible might and vitality of Korea-Soviet friendship by splendidly commemorating the 40th anniversary of the liberation of our fatherland as a common festive day. We rejoice over the fact that, by making an official friendship visit to the Soviet Union when the year is nearing an end, we can personally witness the successes attained in recent years by the Soviet people in socialist and communist construction, and that we have an opportunity to contribute to the development of the fraternal friendship and cooperative relations between the two countries.

I am also pleased to have the opportunity to acquaint myself with Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov, who holds an important position as Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and to share comradely friendship with him.

Today, the Soviet people are vigorously advancing to excellently greet the 27th CPSU Congress, which will be a historic event in the nation's life, and to comprehensively perfect socialism amid great political and labor upsurges.

The people of the world pay close attention to the fact that the Soviet people have achieved many successes in strengthening organization and discipline, accelerating the socio-economic development of the country, achieving scientific and technological progress, completing the state management system, and strengthening the security and defense capabilities of the country after the April plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee under the tested leadership of the party headed by esteemed Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, an outstanding figure of the Soviet party and state; sincerely rejoicing over the achievements of the Soviet people as our own, we believe that a new qualitative turn will be effected in your future struggle to realize Soviet society's further advancement toward communism.

The development and prosperity of the Soviet Union, the fatherland of the great Leninism and the first socialist country in the world, are of great significance in strengthening the overall socialist forces and ensuring the peace. The CPSU and the Soviet Government and people are fighting resolutely against imperialism and are defending world peace and security by thwarting the arms race in space and throughout the world and realizing a realistic nuclear disarmament step.

At the Soviet-U.S. summit talks some time ago, esteemed Comrade General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev made a big contribution to the creation of possibilities for the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations and the sound development of the general international situation through his energetic activities for implementing the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union. We highly estimate the principled stand maintained by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev at the Geneva meeting and actively support the just initiative and efforts of the Soviet Union for defense of world peace and security.

The Soviet Union is exerting dynamic efforts not only for peace in Europe but also for the establishment of good-neighbor relations among nations and the guarantee of peace and security in Asia. We express firm solidarity with this.

Today the Korean people are directly confronted with the imperialists in Asia, and are firmly safeguarding the outpost of socialism in the East. Because of ceaseless aggression and new war provocation maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists, who have turned South Korea into their base for nuclear warfare, and who are accelerating the fabrication of a U.S.-Japanese-South Korean puppet tripartite military alliance, the situation on the Korean peninsula has always been strained to the extreme point.

Even under the difficult circumstances in which the danger of war constantly prevails, our people are vigorously carrying out the work of reforming man, society, and nature in accordance with the line of the three revolutions -- ideological, technological and cultural -- under the wise leadership of the party Central Committee headed by the great Comrade Kim Il-song. We are effecting great successes in the struggle to fulfill the 10 major prospective targets of socialist economic construction ahead of schedule.

Proceeding from the constant peace-loving policy and the sense of mission assigned by mankind and the times, our party and the Government of the Republic are making all efforts to relax tension on the Korean peninsula, to eliminate the danger of war, and to peacefully resolve the Korean issue through dialogue and negotiations. This is clearly reflected in the plan to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo, the proposal for tripartite talks put forth by us, and the realistic and reasonable proposals for realizing a broad range of dialogue between the North and the South.

If the United States is to put into practice at an early date the positive results attained at the Soviet-U.S. summit, it must take a step for withdrawing, without delay, all its nuclear weapons and troops illegally brought into South Korea. Our people, with the active support and encouragement of the Soviet people and other progressive peoples of the world, will smash the two Koreas plot of the splittists and certainly achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country after forcing the U.S. troops out of South Korea.

The Soviet people are actively supporting our people's struggle for socialist construction and national reunification. Our people will never forget this, and are grateful for this. Korean-Soviet friendship is an invincible friendship between class brothers that was forged historically and has been constantly strengthened and developed amid the joint struggle for achieving victory in the cause of socialism and communism, against the imperialists, under the banner of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Saying that the Korean people highly value the great Korean-Soviet friendship, Comrade Kang Song-san expressed the belief that the traditional relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the two parties, two countries, and two peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union would come into full bloom and develop in all fields -- political, economic, and cultural -- on an overall scale in the future.

Talks Close

SK261525 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow December 25 (KCNA) -- Talks between Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on an official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union, and Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, closed on December 25.

Present at the talks on our side were Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier and chairman of the external economic commission; Choe Chong-kun, minister of foreign trade; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; Kim Hyong-nyul, vice-minister of foreign affairs; An Pong-ki, vice-chairman of the state Planning Commission; Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs; and Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union. Present on the Soviet side were Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the state Planning Committee of the Soviet Union; Boris Aristov, minister of foreign trade; Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the state Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations; Mikhail Kapitsa, vice-minister of foreign affairs; V.P. Lakhtin, vice-chairman of the state Planning Committee; and Nikolay Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to Korea.

Discussion continued at the talks on the question of further developing the relations between the two countries and other matters of mutual concern. The talks took place in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Agreements Signed

SK271145 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1115 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow December 26 (KCNA) -- An agreement on economic and technological cooperation between the Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and an agreement on economic-technological cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and the USSR in building an atomic power station in the DPRK were signed in Kremlin, Moscow, on December 26.

The agreements were signed by Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, and Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

[Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean at 1200 GMT 27 December in a report on the cooperation agreements adds: "The ceremony for signing the agreements was attended on our side by Kim Pok-sin, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, vice premier, and chairman of the External Economic Committee; Choe Chong-ku minister of foreign trade; Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs; Kwon Hui-kyong, ambassador of our country to the Soviet Union; and other functionaries concerned, and on the Soviet side by Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aristov, minister of foreign trade; Klyuyev, minister of light industry; Katushev, chairman of the state Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; Kapitsa, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the state Planning Committee; Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to our country; and other functionaries concerned."]

Text of Communique

SK280601 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0538 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 28 (KCNA) -- A Korean-Soviet joint communique on the official goodwill visit of Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to the Soviet Union was published in Moscow on December 27.

The communique reads in full: Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, paid an official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union from December 24 to 27, 1985, upon the invitation of the USSR Government.

While staying in the Soviet Union, the premier of the DPRK Administration Council and his party were accorded warm and cordial hospitality, which reflected the good friendly relations between the two countries.

Comrade Kang Song-san laid wreaths before Lenin's mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the wall of the Kremlin, visited Leningrad and went round revolutionary sites and battle sites.

Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, met Premier Kang Song-san and had a friendly talk with him.

The premier courteously conveyed regards of Comrade Kim II-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to Comrade M.S. Gorbachev. Comrade M.S. Gorbachev expressed deep thanks for this and asked the premier to convey his regards and good wishes to Comrade Kim II-song.

Talks were held between Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK and premier of the DPRK Administration Council, and N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., CPSU and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The talks took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Comrade Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK and vice-premier of the DPRK Administration Council; Comrade Choe Chong-kun, DPRK minister of foreign trade; Comrade Chong Songmam, DPRK minister of external economic affairs; Comrade Kim Hyong-yul, DPRK vice-minister of foreign affairs; Comrade An Pong-ki, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Planning Commission; Comrade Kim Chong-u, DPRK vice-minister of external economic affairs; and Comrade Kwon Hui-yong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, and on the Soviet side were Comrade N.V. Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., CPSU and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the state Planning Committee of the USSR; Comrade B.I. Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; Comrade K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR state Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; Comrade M.S. Kapitsa, USSR vice-minister of foreign affairs; Comrade V.P. Lakhtin, vice-chairman of the USSR state Planning Committee; and Comrade N.M. Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to the DPRK.

At the conversations and talks the Soviet leaders informed Comrade Kang Song-san of the line of the Soviet Union for qualitatively improving the Soviet society by accelerating the socio-economic development of the country and of the preparations for the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

Comrade Kang Song-san informed them of the achievements made by the Korean people in the efforts for carrying through the line of three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, laid down by the 6th Congress of the WPK and the devoted struggle of the Korean people for reunifying the country in a peaceful way on a democratic principle. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the fact that the relations of fraternal friendship and solidarity and cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries are developing on the uphill course in the spirit agreed upon at the top-level meetings and talks during the visit of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to the Soviet Union in May last year.

The principled significance carried by the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the DPRK and the USSR in further developing the bilateral relations in depth and scope was unanimously stressed again. Both sides stressed that the bearings of Korean-Soviet trade and scientific and technological cooperation on the increase of the rate of economic development of the two countries were growing still further.

Concrete questions of cooperation between the two countries in the 1986-1990 period and a long-term period were discussed in such a manner as to improve quality and effectiveness. Both sides paid much attention to the quest of new forms for establishing economic relations on the basis of equality, mutual interests and equilibrium.

The talks culminated in the signing of an agreement on economic and technological cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and the USSR and an agreement on economic and technological cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and the USSR in the building of an atomic power station in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Exchanging views on the immediate questions at the present juncture, both sides confirmed that they shared the same view on the cause of the international tensions. The DPRK and the USSR stressed that, in face of the military danger growing due to the policy of the imperialist aggressive quarters, it was of paramount importance for the socialist countries to strengthen unity and cohesion, strengthen common actions in the international arena and for all the peace forces to get united in the struggle for consolidating peace and security in the world and guaranteeing the rights of peoples to independent development and social progress. The Korean side stressed its approval and support to the foreign policy initiatives of the Soviet Union to rule out the nuclear war, call a halt to the arms race carried on by imperialism and not to allow the militarisation of space. Appreciating the positive results attained at the Geneva meeting of the Soviet and U.S. leaders, the Korean side emphasized that the United States should take a responsible attitude in carrying into practice the agreements reached in the course of the meeting.

The DPRK and the USSR expressed serious concern over the new war provocation moves of the United States which are becoming undisguised. Both sides sternly denounced the scheme to frame up a three-way military alliance involving the United States, Japan and South Korea. The Soviet side gave assurances that it was invariably supporting the initiatives taken by the DPRK Government to force the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea and realise the democratic and peaceful reunification of the country, its proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and proposal for replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, and proposals for holding wide-range dialogue between North and South. Convinced that the results of the talks would be conducive to further consolidating the unity and cohesion and expanding cooperation still further between the DPRK and the USSR, both sides expressed satisfaction over this.

Comrade Kang Song-san, in the name of the DPRK Government, invited Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov to pay an official goodwill visit to the DPRK at a time he thinks fit. This invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Kang Visits Leningrad

SK280611 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0558 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow December 26 (KCNA) -- Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on an official goodwill visit to the Soviet Union upon the invitation of the Soviet Government, visited Leningrad on December 26.

The Leningrad regional Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Executive Committee of the Leningrade City soviet of people's deputies arranged that day a banquet in honour of the premier. Attending the banquet were Yuriy Soloviyov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad regional committee of the party; V. Ya. Khdirev, president of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad City soviet of people's deputies; N.I. Popov, president of the Executive Committee of the Leningrad regional soviet of people's deputies, and leading officials of party and power bodies of Leningrade City and region. Soviet Minister of Fisheries Vladimir Kamentsev, vice-minister of non-ferrous metal industry Igoriy Prokopov and Soviet Ambassador to Korea Nikolay Shubnikov were also present.

First Secretary Yuriy Solobiyov spoke forst. The Soviet visit of a DPRK party and state delegation headed by Comrade Kim Il-song in May last year was a great event that opened new broad opportunities for deepening the cooperation between the two parties and two countries on an overall scale on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalsim, he stressed. The Soviet Union, he said, expresses solidarity with the DPRK in its struggle for forcing the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, making them take away the nuclear weapons, and achieving the peaceful reunification of Korea on a democratic basis.

Speaking next Premier Kang Song-san expressed the belief that the Soviet people would make a positive contribution to the cause of advancing the Soviet society toward communism by accelerating socio-economic development, rallied closely around the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. As a close brother and comrade-in-arms, the Korean people will value the firm Korean-Soviet friendship and make all efforts for its efflorescence and development.

On the same day Premier Kang Song-san conversed with the first secretary of the Leningrad regional committee of the CPSU at its building. The premier and his entourage visited Lenin's memorial and Hermitage Art Gallery and laid wreaths before the Piskaryov Memorial Cemetery and the monument to heroic defenders of Leningrad.

FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION PACT WITH LIBYA SIGNED

SK310507 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 31 (KCNA) -- An agreement on friendship and cooperation between the Korea-Libya Friendship Association and the Libyan Arab-Korea Friendship Association was signed in Pyongyang on December 30. It was signed by Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions and chairman of the Korea-Libya Friendship Association, and Muftah Muhammad Ku'ayba, justice and security secretary of the General People's Committee of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and general secretary of the Libyan Arab-Korea Friendship Association.

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH CUBAN ACADEMY PLANNED

SK290858 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0835 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA) -- A 1985-1986 working plan on scientific cooperation between the Academies of Sciences of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cuba was signed in Pyongyang on December 28. Attending the signing ceremony on our side were Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences Pak Yong-Hyop and officials concerned and on the opposite side were Cuban Ambassador to Korea Ricardo Danza Sigas and officials of his embassy.

TIMES: NKDP LAWMAKERS TO DEFECT, FORM NEW GROUP

SK310118 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] About a dozen lawmakers of the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP, NDP] yesterday decided to defect from the party to form another floor negotiating group in defiance of "misguiding" party leadership. They will hold a news conference this morning to announce their breakaway from the NDP, Rep. Chong Chae-won, the spokesman for the group, told reporters. He revealed that 12 NDP lawmakers signed up for the defection in a two-hour meeting at a restaurant yesterday evening. Chong added that two or three more NDP Assemblymen are expected to join them.

Ten of them are members of the "new Conservative Group" which is led by Rep. Yu Han-yol, former secretary general of the another opposition Democratic Korea Party under Yu Chisong. The group was originally organized by nine defectors from the DKP which was the major opposition party in the previous 11th-term National Assembly. They seceded and joined the NDP which emerged as the first opposition party in the Feb. 12 general elections. Rep. Sin Kyong-sul who was elected from the national constituency the NDP joined the group later. All the members of the New Conservative Group, except Reps. Im Chong-ki and Yu Kap-chong, were dropped out of the list for replacement of the chiefs of local chapters of the NDP. The members of the group claimed that their exclusion expedited their decision to leave the party. Im and Yu also decided to follow their former colleagues in the DKP.

Briefing the contents of the meeting, Chong said, "We made the decision to leave the NDP chiefly because of the anachronism of the party and the party leadership which misguides the NDP." The NDP now has 102 Assembly seats. When the NDP loses more than a dozen seats, its floor strength will be reduced to below the 92 seats level, one third of the whole Assembly membership. In this case, the NDP will not be able to convene an Assembly session or initiate impeachment motions independently.

The ten members of the New Conservative Group are Reps Yi Tae-ku, So Chong-yol, Hwang Pyong-u, Choe un-chi, Yi Kun-il, Yu Han-yol, Im Chong-ki, Yu Kap-chong, Sin Kyong-sul and Chong. Rep. Chong, however, refrained from making public the names of two other NDP lawmakers who signed up for the defection yesterday. Party sources said that Rep. Han Sok-pong is one of the two potential turncoats. Chong said that it is likely that there will be follow-up defection of more NDP members. He said confidently that the defectors can form their own floor group before the middle of the next month with cooperation of three incumbent DKP lawmakers and at least one independent Assemblyman. Twenty lawmakers are needed to form a floor negotiating group.

Chong said that he and his colleagues will submit letters of secession to the NDP today. He went on that they will organize the floor negotiating group first and then move to found a new political party. When they form the floor group, they will launch full-fledged struggle for the constitutional revision and the complete implementation of the local autonomy system which is planned to begin in early 1987, Chong said.

TIMES: PROSECUTION INDICTS 4 NKDP AIDES FOR VEHICLE

SK310120 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 31 85 p 8

[Text] The Seoul District Prosecution yesterday indicted four aides to opposition NDP lawmakers for their alleged implication in the recent National Assembly violence.

Two of the four have already been put under arrest while physical detention was spared for the two others. The two arrested and indicted are Paek Song-cho, 30, aids to Rep. Kim Chong-kil, and So Il-kun, 27, aide to Rep. Yi Sang-min.

Of the nine NDP figures questioned by the prosecution, the remaining five, including four party members, were exonerated from being indicted, according to the prosecution. "The prosecution has little evidence proving that the five were involved in the floor melee. We did not take testimonies from the reportedly harassed ruling party lawmakers, and therefore it is hard to support charges against them," a prosecution official said.

The prosecution also decided to suspend indictment for two legislators' aides who are still at large. A court writ has laready been issued for one of the two.

Meanwhile, the 17 NDP legislators also suspected of violence did not show up at the prosecution yesterday in defiance of prosecution summonses.

Last Friday, the prosecution served summonses on them, calling for their presentation for query, by 10 a.m. yesterday.

The prosectuion was learned to be eyeing second summonses to them on Jan. 4 next year.

Meanwhile, the prosecution official insinuated that a non-judical solution may bring the "politically sensitive" issue to an "unexpectedly swift end."

NAVY MONITORS SOVIET WARSHIPS' ACTIVITIES

SK300758 Seoul YONHAP in English 0740 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 30 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The South Korean Navy monitored the activities of three Soviet warships that passed through South Korea's combat operational waters late last month, a naval spokesman said Monday.

The Soviet vessels entered Korean waters off the coast of Korea's southernmost island-province of Cheju on Nov. 21 and left Korea's eastern waters the following day, en route to the Soviet naval port of Vladivostok, the spokesman said. The Soviet battle-ships, including the guided-missile cruiser Frunze and the guided-missile destroyer Sovremenny, left Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay on Nov. 16, he said. The three Soviet vessels apparently were recently assigned to the Soviet Pacific fleet, bringing to 881 the number of warships in the fleet. The Soviet Union's augmentation of its Pacific fleet is part of its strategy of strengthening its combat capability against U.S. aircraft carriers in the Pacific region, the spokesman explained.

DJP URGES DIVERSIFYING MARKET TALKS WITH U.S.

SK310132 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party asked the administration yesterday to diversify channels of negotiations in dealing with the United States on matters concerning the opening of Korean markets. The government can exercise flexibility and professionalism by using private professional organizations and other pertinent institutions, the party said.

Presently, the International Economic Policy Council (IEPC) is mostly in charge of negotiations with the U.S. government on trade issues.

The ruling party also suggested that the government take enough time in dealing with the matter so that people can understand the contents of the negotiations.

The DJP made the requests at a joint DJP-cabinet session which took up Korea-U.S. trade issues.

Party chairman No Tae-u, Policy Committee chairman Chang Song-man and Na Ung-pae, director of the Office of Police Coordination, were present.

Deputy Prime Minister-Economic Planning Minister Sin Pyong-hyon and IEPC secretary general Kim Ki-hwan were also on hand.

In the meeting, the ruling DJP demanded that the government take measures to keep domestic businesses from dumping or excessive mutual competitions.

On the opening of markets for U.S. cigarettes and liquors, the U.S. side should act beforehand to eradicate illegal influx of them from PXs, the party insisted.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Sin said that the United States is pressing the government to advance the opening of markets for U.S. chemical compound patents.

The Korean government has suggested it will open the chemical compound patents markets by 1989.

Sin also disclosed that the U.S. side is also prompting the government to open up life insurance markets, in addition to nonlife insurance markets.

Currently, two U.S. nonlife insurance companies are operating in Korea.

The United States is demanding that Korea protect U.S. intellectual property rights from March 1986, which the government plans to enact in 1987, Sin said.

8 STUDENTS INDICTED UNDER SECURITY LAW SENTENCED

SK280832 Seoul YONHAP in English 0810 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Swoul, Dec. 28 (YONHAP) -- Eight university students indicted on charges of violating National Security Law were given prison terms Saturday.

Judge Yi Chon-chan of the Seoul District Criminal Court sentenced two of the students, including Kang Hyo-suk, 22, a senior at Seoul National University, three years in prison.

He gave two Korea University students two-year sentences, but their terms were suspended for three years.

Four other students were given two-year and one-and-a-half-year prison terms.

The eight students printed and distributed anti-government leaflets last June on several university campuses, in an effort to indoctrinate students with socialistic ideology.

The prosecution had demanded prison terms ranging from three to seven years for the eight defendants.

SPK ON THAI BORDER VIOLATIONS DURING DECEMBER

BK301251 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1120 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 30 -- During the month ended December 28, Thailand's L-19's, A-37's and F-5's made 103 reconnaissance flights over areas of the Kampuchean-Lao-Thai border, and over Chong Chaom, Ampil, Yeang Dangkum, Poipet, Phnum Malai, Smat Deng in the provinces of Preah Vihear, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Battambang and Pursat, 20 kilometres inside Kampuchea. Most serious of all, on December 12, two Thai aircraft of the F-5 type entered 90 kilometres into the space over Battambang.

On the ground, Thai artillery 273 times shelled on Kampuchean territory, concentrating on Hill 321, Pailin, Ta Sanh and Smat Deng. On December 18 and 21 alone, Thailand lobbed 575 mortar and artillery rounds on western Smat Deng in Ursat to cover infiltrations by Khmer reactionaries into Kampuchea.

CHEA SIM ATTENDS MEETING ON MISLED PERSONS

BK240800 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] A ceremony was held at the former Royal Palace on the evening of 22 December to close the meeting to sum up the 1985 movement to persuade misled persons to return to the fold. The ceremony was held under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council. During the meeting which lasted for 3 days, the meeting participants listened attentively to the reports by various ministries, provinces, municipalities, units, and individuals who made outstanding feats in persuading misled persons to return to the fold in 1985.

Comrade Un Dara, member of the Central proselytization movement's standing committee, spoke on the essence of historic significance which reflects the spirit of patriotism and love for the class of our people in joining the revolutionary movement -- in combat as well as in the movement to persuade misled persons to return to the fold. The comrade also reported on the 6-point policy of the party and state which has been correctly implemented and thoroughly publicized, and on some targets to be implemented in the coming years.

Participants also welcomed a number of outstanding provinces, units, and individuals.

According to the report summing up the results of the movement, during 1985, more than 4,000 misled persons returned to the fold, 2,000 more than in 1984.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Comrade Chea Sim highly valued the outcome and the efforts of the authorities, mass organizations, and people whose great efforts have brought this good outcome. He highly praised those units and individuals who have performed well in persuading the enemies to return to the fold. At the same time, the comrade stressed the roles of the authorities, mass organizations, and people in implementing the 6-point clemency policy of our party and state and exhorted all participants to make further efforts, enhance the two banners of national unity and internationalist solidarity, particularly solidarity with the Vietnamese friends, strive to make more achievements for our revolution, heighten revolutionary vigilance, apply combined forces in smashing the psychological warfare of the Pol Pot bandits, and correctly implement our party-state's 6-point policy.

KPNLF ABANDONS BORDER BASES TO AVOID FIGHTING

BK310115 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Dec 85 p 3

[Excerpt] The recent abandonment of border bases of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) guerrillas was part of its plan to avoid fighting with

Vietnamese troops on the Thai-Kampuchean frontier, a KPNLF official said. The official said the KPNLF military strategy, after most of its encampments along the Thai-Kampuchean border fell to the Vietnamese during the past dry season, is to open battle-fields in the Kampuchean interior and avoid heavy fighting close to the border.

He said the Vietnamese offensive against the KPNLF border strongholds during the past dry season has affected the Thai soldiers as well as the Thai villagers in the border area. Vietnamese troops during the last dry season made several intrusions into the Thai territory and clashed with the Thai soldiers guarding the frontier. He said the withdrawal of the KPNLF fighters from their border bases was also aimed at preventing the fighting from spilling into the heavily populated evacuation area of "Site II."

Site II, Jocated in Ta Phraya District of Prachin Buri, is a temporary evacuation area for more than 130,000 Kampuchean displaced persons and more than 3,000 Vietnamese land people. The official said the KPNLF guerrillas' withdrawal from the border bases will help dissuade the Vietnamese forces from attacking Site II.

THE NATION INTERVIEWS SON SANN ON KPNLF CONFLICT

BK310129 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Challenged Khmer leader Son Sann said yesterday the door is still open for dissident leaders Gen Sak Sutsakhan and Gen Dien Del to "return to the fold." But the dissident group called a meeting of about 40 cadres at the border yesterday after having broadcast Gen Sak's statement declaring the take-over in a move seen as a consolidation of the dissident's position. Khmer sources also said the so-called Provincial Central Committee of Salvation (PCCS) of the rebel side was making preparations to pick a new president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF). A few nominees have been asked to fly to Bangkok for talks with the PCCS members, according to the sources.

In an exclusive interview with THE NATION, Son Sann said that he was still willing to welcome back Gen Sak, the PCCS chairman, and Gen Dien Del. Responding to a statement by the dissident group that negotiations to patch up the rift lead had been deadlocked, Son Sann said: "The (direct) talks have not even started." Referring to the rebel group's demand for a de facto separation of powers, Son Sann said that as president of the KPNLF, he has the responsibility to look after the KPNLF affairs. On the other hand, he said he had never "meddled" with the military affairs. "I recently nominated Gen Sak as my commander-in-chief to delegate powers and have let him handle the military affairs ever since," he said.

He said the question of dissident members Dr Gaffar Abdul Peang Meth's and Hing Kunthon's status in the KPNLF would depend on talks with Gen Sak and Gen Dien Del. But he added what the two had done despite his patience had "somewhat gone beyond the acceptable limits." Spokesman of the PCCS Dr Gaffar responded that at this point everybody (in the PCCS) had gone beyond the limits. On Son Sann's call for Gen Sak's return to the fold, Dr Gaffar said that it was only a "ploy to divide the PCCS."

Son Sann, asked about reports that he planned to visit the border over the past weekend, said he still could not make it there because he was "waiting for the green light." Dr Gaffar told THE NATION that the fact that Son Sann could not make it to the border showed whose side was in control. He said that on Sunday, Gen Sak and other PCCS members went to the border and called a meeting of about 40 political cadres from Site Two and Site Two-south. At the meeting, a Muslim leader, named Mohammad Abdul made a public apology to Dr Gaffar over his written statement accusing Dr Gaffar of diverting aid from the Arab Development Bank and other Muslim countries to the Khmer Muslim communities for personal gains, the spokesman said.

BANGKOK POST CITES ARMY SPOKESMAN ON SRV CLASHES

BK310059 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Four Thai border defenders were killed and three others wounded in clashes with intruding Vietnamese forces in Buri Ram and Surin provinces last week. Army spokesman Maj-Gen Narudon Detpradiyut disclosed yesterday that at about 10 a.m. on December 24, a Thai patrol unit encountered about 20 Vietnamese troops some 700 metres inside Thai territory in Meka Pass, Ban Kruat District of Buri Ram. Fighting broke out and after 10 minutes the intruders were repulsed. Pvt Samruai Chamak was shot dead at the scene of the clash.

A second incident occurred at around noon on Hill 472, also in Ban Kruat District, when a Border Patrol Police unit clashed with a band of Vietnamese intruders. One policeman was killed and three others wounded. Maj-Gen Narudon added that two Thai rangers were shot dead in a clash with Vietnamese troops about 700 metres inside Thai territory in sangkha District of Surin on December 28. A Thai plane also came under Vietnamese anti-aircraft fire while it was on a reconnaissance flight eastward from Khao Loem, Prachin Buri Province, on December 24. The plane returned to its base safely and Thai gunners retaliated with mortar fire. A brief clash took place on the same day in Ban Sanlo Cha-ngan, Ta Phraya District, between Thai rangers and Vietnamese soldiers.

NAEO NA ON BLOCKADED SOVIET BOAT, GOODS

BK310908 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 31 Dec 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Foreign Ministry wants Laos to move a Soviet-built boat and 32 radio transceivers out of Thailand within 6 months. This will be the first case of Thailand's not allowing transit of goods into Laos during the past 10 years since the communist takeover of that country. A source, who did not want to reveal either his name or his work, disclosed to NAEO NA that the message was relayed to Laos by Pracha Khunakasem, former director general of the Economics Department, who is now Thai ambassador to France. Pracha met Lao Ambassador to Thailand Khamphan Simmalavong in Bangkok in October and told him about the matter. The Foreign Ministry is expected to inform all concerned agencies formally of the issue.

The boat is a Soviet-made transport vessel 10 meters long and displacing about 30 tons. It arrived at Khlong Toei port from the Soviet Union in November 1981 and has been stranded in the customs department's transit warehouse. The 32 radio transceivers arrived in Thailand at about the same time as Soviet aid for Laos. They can operate at a radius of about 10 km. An official of the Lao Embassy confirmed this to NAEO NA Monday by telephone. According to the Lao official, the boat and the radios were intended for use in constructing a bridge across the Pak Kading River south of Vientiane. The bridge was completed early this year.

Thai authorities, however, feared that the boat might be converted to military use, thus posing a direct threat to Thailand's Mekong River Patrol Operation Unit. The ban on the transit of the radio sets was based on the same reason. Lao authorities, however, rejected the Thai claim. The Lao official said the Lao Embassy in Bangkok will immediately contact concerned agencies in Thailand once it has received written notification from the Thai Foreign Ministry so that the ship and radio sets will be returned to the Soviet Union. According to the same source, Thailand is considering whether or not to allow transit of two other shipments into Laos: about 100 metric tons of wire and about 50 metric tons of steel rods for bridges construction.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH PRO

BK310315 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Dec 85 p 2

[Text] Thailand and China yesterday agreed to explore the possibility of new joint-ventures in the third market. A Cooperation Protocol was signed at the end of the five-day meeting yesterday by Praphat Limpaphan, Deputy Foreign Minister and Lu Xuejian, Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade. Both countries agreed to set a target of two-way trade of about US\$350-400 million for next year. They also approved lists of import and export of commodities which Thailand and China agreed to sell to each other.

Thailand agreed to buy from China high-speed diesel, raw silk, machinery, pharmaceutical and paraffin. China will import Thai commodities including rice, mung bean, raw sugar, rubber, synthetic fibre, cashew nuts, herbs, construction materials, tobacco leaves, plain glass and fish meals. An informed source said that China will continue to buy more rice from Thailand. China buys about 125,000 tons of Thai rice annually.

The five-day meeting was the first of the joint committee on economic cooperation between Thailand and China. The joint committee was set up during the meeting early this year between Thai leaders and Chinese President Li Xiannian with the aim of strengthening and expanding trade and economic cooperation between the two nations. During the meeting, the Thai side also invited China to invest in Thailand in the field of agroindustry and in those areas which China possesses skills and technological know-hows, particularly on decorative ceramics, herbal medicine, preservation and processing of food, tea industry and mining. The Chinese delegation agreed to cooperate and encourage Chinese investment in these areas in Thailand.

According to Thai Ambassador to China Orachun Tanaphong, the prospects of future Thai-China trade is positive. We said that the two-way trade target set for the next year will be fulfilled without much difficulty given the increased demand of Thai agricultural commodities in China. "It is true that in certain committees China is able to export and compete with Thailand. As China becomes more developed, it will become more self-sufficient," he said. He added that judging from the natural hazards that inflicted on China in the past months, the demand of agricultural products would increase.

SITTHI NAMED SAP CHIEF; CABINET SHUFFLE SOUGHT

BK310215 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Social Action Party [SAP] yesterday picked Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila as caretaker party leader -- and immediately after the decision was reached, a group of SAP MP's signed a petition seeking a Cabinet reshuffle. Prime movers for the Cabinet changes told THE NATION that the petition, addressed to Sitthi as the interim party leader, will be submitted as soon as possible so that it could be raised in the regular meeting of the party's MP's on Jan 15. A source in the party's executive committee said that informal consultations among the 15 Cabinet members from SAP reached the consensus that they were all ready to quit so that a reshuffle among SAP ministers could be effected.

During yesterday's meeting, several SAP Cabinet members, including Deputy Finance Minister Amnuai Yotsuk, Commerce Minister Konson Krairoek, Deputy Commerce Minister Prayun Chindasin and Minister attached to the MP's [Prime Minister's] Office Sayat Khamprakop, said they were willing to resign to pave way for the reshuffle. SAP yesterday also elected former commerce minister Thongyot Chittawira as acting secretary general until a permanent party's top hierarchy is elected in a general assembly scheduled for next June.

"I'll do my best to prepare the party for the general elections set for 1987," Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Sitthi declared after the party's executive committee named him interim party leader after M.R. Khukrit Pramot handed in his resignation Friday afternoon. Koson told the meeting that he had been placed in a difficult position over the "paddy [price] lifting programme." He said that while the government wanted the plan to succeed, it was not willing to offer the necessary financing. Koson reportedly told the party meeting: "I'm willing to go so that the party can find a successor as commerce minister." Sitthi, asked after his election as the caretaker party leader on whether he had been assigned by the party to discuss with Premier Prem Tinsulanon on the proposed reshuffle, refused to comment on the matter.

Sources said that the MP's and Cabinet members of SAP had held talks on the issue and agreed that the move should be carried out step by step so that the party's resolution could be submitted to the prime minister officially. "The show must go on," declared party spokesman Amnuai Yutsuk, also deputy finance minister after the party executive committee's one-hour deliberations which began at 2:00 pm. He was referring to the fact that M.R. Khukrit had insisted on quitting the party's top slot following the party's defeat in the Dec 26 by-election. M.R. Khukrit subsequently reiterated that he would not accept renomination even if the majority of the party members were to ask him to stay on. "I am getting too old to lead the party. A new leader must be elected to move on with SAP," M.R. Khukrit said on Sunday.

Both Sitthi and Thongyot are deputy leaders of SAP. Their election to the interim top party posts yesterday were unanimous. There was no contest, apparently because most of the executive committee members had huddled in advance to ensure a smooth election yesterday to avoid any internal bickering, informed sources said. ACM Sitthi had in fact been tipped about his new party post in advance. When reporters went up to him before the executive committee started the deliberations yesterday afternoon to congratulate him on his being named party leader of SAP, the foreign minister quipped: "No, only acting party leader." Sitthi told reporters after the meeting that the "most important task" for him would be to prepare the party for the general elections one year from now. "SAP will continue to be strong despite the fact that M.R. Khukrit will not be our party leader," he said. Sitthi added: "I'll try to rectify the wrongs and drawbacks in the party. "I'll brush up the party's standing and image in every way possible," he added. Sitthi is a Bangkok MP.

Thongyot, an elected MP from Suphanburi province, said that internal changes within SAP will not affect the government's stability. He refused to speculate on rumours of a possible Cabinet reshuffle as a result of the resignation of M.R. Khukrit as party leader and the "change of guard" that came into force yesterday. Asked about talks of a possible Parliament dissolution, the veteran politician said: "That's only speculation and nothing else." Asked about a possible Cabinet reshuffle, Thongyot said: "That's not up to SAP. It's the prerogatives of the prime minister who is head of the government."

One more member of the party's executive committee, Chumphon MP Thiraphan Phetsuwan, also deputy secretary general, handed in his resignation vesterday, becoming the sixth to resign from the executive body. After Khukrit handed in his resignation last week, four others followed suit. They included Secretary General Phong Sarasin and deputy party leader Dr. wasem Sirisamphan to pave the way for a shakeup of the executive committee will be elected in the party's general assembly to be held next June.

GEN CHAWALIT CUTS TRIP SHORT, MEETS KHUKRIT

BK310225 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut abruptly cut short his trip in the South to fly to Bangkok and visited M.R. Khukrit Pramot at his Suan Phlu residence yesterday afternoon. Aides said that Gen Chawalit presented a bouquet of flowers to the former leader of Social Action Party (SAP) to mark the New Year. They said the two believed to discuss the consequences of M.R. Khukrit's resignation as SAP's party leader.

BANGKOK POST CITES KHUKRIT ON CABINET SHUFFLE

BK310219 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Dec 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Former Social Action Party [SAP] leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot announced yesterday that he fully supported the call for a Cabinet reshuffle by a group of dissident party members, saying that it was in accordance with democratic principles. The ex-prime minister further said that the Cabinet shakeup should not be limited to only SAP ministers, but should cover others as well.

The call for changing SAP ministers in the Cabinet was made in the form of an urgent motion submitted to ACM Sitthi Sawetsila, elected caretaker leader of the party yesterday, by six MP's -- Suwit Khunkitti of Khon Kaen, Rakkiat Sukthana of Udon Thani, Chiramit Chiamcharoen-udomdi of Sakon Nakhon, Surasak Chaowisit of Bangkok, Chamlong Rungruang of Mae Hong Son and Kuson Mithet of Sukhothai. Mr Rakkiat said that M.R. Khukrit's resignation from the party leadership last week was meant to pave the way for a party reorganisation and a Cabinet reshuffle involving SAP ministers. Without changing SAP ministers in the Cabinet, he warned, the party might not be able to control its MPs in Parliament when it reconvenes next May.

M.R. Khukrit said he only hoped that his resignation would encourage the Prime Minister to reshuffle his Cabinet and lead party members to have greater incentive in working hard and improving themselves. "This is a hope of mine, not a political trick," he said. While pledging support for a Cabinet shakeup call, he said that Gen Prem Tinsulanon should not resign, but should remain in office to carry out the Cabinet reshuffle. "In Thailand, anybody can be prime minister provided he has the backing of a strong Cabinet which is a responsible team," he said, adding that he thought Gen Prem had the charisma and was most suitable to lead the country.

However, he said he hated to be called the "main pillar of democracy" because it was against democratic principles. He added that he also disliked being called "patron of Gen Prem" because it held him as well as the Prime Minister in contempt. "A house needs 30-40 supporting pillars. Those pillars which are rotten should be replaced," he noted, adding that the two terminologies were not conducive to the democratic process and should be dismissed.

An informed party source said that at least four ministers including Commerce Minister Koson Krairoek, PM's Office Minister Sawat Khamprakop, Deputy Finance Minister Amnuai Yotsuk and Deputy Commerce Minister Prayun Chindasin had expressed willingness to step down at an executive committee meeting yesterday.

ATHIT ORDERS OFFICIALS NOT TO AID KAREN REBLLS

BK300329 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] A total of 17,053 Karen refugees, who fled fighting in Burma are being sheltered in the northwestern province of Tak, a senior army official said yesterday. Col Thawisak Musikthinnaphan of the Supreme Command joint operation centre told reporters 14,440 Karen refugees are living in Tha Song Yang District, 577 in Mae Ramat District and 2,036 others in Mae Sot District. Meanwhile, Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlangek has ordered soldiers and officials working in the Thai-Burmese border area not to support the minority groups against the Burmese government. He also ordered the officials to prevent the anti-Rangoon minority forces from using Thai territory as staging areas to conduct military operations against Rangoon's forces. He said Thai officials in contact with the Burmese at several border points must try to promote good relations between the Thai and Burmese governments.

MILITARY SOURCES DENY HOT LINE WITH PRC

BK290934 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 29 Dec 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Hong Kong FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW reported in the January issue that Thailand and China have established a direct telephone line (hot line) from the Thai Supreme Command to the Kunming military region headquarters in southern China, which will enable Thailand to report about the situation along the eastern border, where Vietnam may invade this dry season, and let China repay the Vietnamese in kind. A military source told our correspondent that this report is nonsense. "It is not necessary for Thailand to establish a special telephone link and to report news to China because our country is not under the mandate of China or any other country."

The source said that the present telecommunications and telephone system has been further developed. "We are able to contact every country in the world. So, the news is inaccurate." The source stressed that "when the prime minister visited Indonesia, he was able to talk to Thai people by telephone; and while General Athit was in Sweden, he made orders to Thailand by telephone during the 9 September incident." The source continued that the news report is aimed at making the situation in this region seem tense, and to mislead people into believing that Thailand is close to and is a follower of China. Another high-ranking officer said that the report is inaccurate, adding that it is designed to test how deep Thai-Chinese relations are and to see the reaction of our government.

RADIO FEATURE REVIEWS 1985 CHINESE PROVOCATIONS

BK271333 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Station Editor Vu Dinh Vinh's feature: "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense"]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends: As we near the end of the year, let's look back at the various activities of the Chinese authorities against our country which we have presented in this feature throughout the year. First of all, we can say generally that in 1985 the Chinese authorities have continually implemented a hostile policy toward Vietnam through their increasingly cruel and insidious plots. While intensifying their foreign policy of friendliness with many countries, they have rejected talks with Vietnam and, at the same time, sought every means to isolate Vietnam in the international arena.

With a view to annexing and weakening Vietnam, in 1985 the Chinese authorities continued their multifaceted war of sabotage against Vietnam along with accelerating their land-grabbing war along Vietnam's border. The Chinese military forces along the Sino-Vietnamese border, including many regular Army corps and divisions, have been maintained as before. Some of these major units have moved from the northern military regions. They have carried out several phases of troop movement and rotation in order to maintain permanent military pressure on Vietnam. The Chinese side has daily and weekly moved by truck and train military equipment and combat facilities to the border, consolidated field fortifications and trenches, and opened roads even on Vietnam's hills illegally occupied by its troops. All these are aimed at creating a point of advantage and preparing a springboard from which to launch a new offensive of aggression.

Since May, the Chinese authorities have moved several regular Army divisions to the border area adjacent to Ha Tuyen Province. During the last months of the year, some additional aircraft have been brought by the various Chinese Army commands to border airfields. At several junctures in 1985, the Chinese side hurled slanderous charges against Vietnam, saying that Vietnam has encroached on Chinese territory and forced China to counterattack. It has justified its military activities against Vietnam by saying that the hills in Vi Xuyen are Chinese territory.

Proceeding from the abovementioned slanders and the military preparations along the Sino-Vietnamese border, the Beijing authorities have continued to wage a form of border land-grabbing war against Vietnam in a fierce manner, especially in the border area of Vi Xuyen District, Ha Tuyen Province. It can be said that the Chinese shellings there have never stopped since 1984. Noteworthy was that the shellings were fierce and new combat tactics were used in grabbing our hill. Some of the enemy's typical land-grabbing operations have taken place this year. From 27 May to 13 June, Chinese troops concentrated their fierce shelling on many areas in Vi Xuyen District. In those 18 days alone, the Chinese artillery fired 225,900 assorted shells, destroying many hamlets and villages of our compatriots. On some days, they even fired 50,000 shells onto our territory.

With artillery support, the enemy infantry forces launched six attacks shortly after midnight of 1 June trying to grab and occupy the southern area of hill 1509 and the eastern part of hill 400. According to a recapitulation report of our responsible agency, along the northern border of our country, during the first half of 1985 Chinese troops fired 700,000 mortar shells and rockets, and regularly used rifles to fire at 60 or more spots in Quang Ninh, Lang Son, Cao Bang, and Ha Tuyen Provinces. The fire sometimes lasted for days and nights, trying to exterminate our border forces. On 60 occasions or more, their forces of platoon-to-regiment-size units frantically intruded into Vietnam's territory to conduct land-grabbing operations.

In July 1985, Chinese troops again fired 130,000 assorted shells and continually conducted many land-grabbing attacks on some areas and hills of Ha Tuyen Province. The Sino-Vietnamese border situation continued to be tense during September. In only a few days, some 50,000 enemy shells were fired into Ha Tuyen Province -- 15 km deep into our territory at some places -- to support Chinese infantry regiments and battalions in launching many attacks to grab and occupy some of Vietnam's hills in the area of Thanh Thuy village and surrounding areas.

In December, the Chinese troops' provocative and land-grabbing acts again strained the situation with nearly 100,000 shells fired and crimes continually committed against the Vietnamese people. They repeatedly conducted land-grabbing operations in a long-term plot to enlarge the illegally occupied areas.

In 1985, we also saw another barbarous and insidious crime by the Chinese authorities in their hostile policy against our people: The floating of mines in the headstreams of rivers flowing into Vietnam from May to August with a view to sabotaging the labor life of our people and killing our civilian people living along the river banks. They floated many kinds of mines which could not easily be identified among the flotsam. In the Lo and Red Rivers flowing through the eight provinces of Ha Tuyen, Vinh Phu, Hanoi, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung, Thai Binh, and Haiphong, scores of accidents occurred because of Chinese floating mines, killing and wounding dozens of our people.

Continuing their multifaceted war of sabotage against Vietnam, in 1985, the Chinese side has sent hundreds of teams of scouts and commandos deep into the border provinces to conduct spying, intelligence, propaganda, and psychological warfare operations; establish connections and reactionary bases; lay ambushes; conduct assassinations and kidnappings; burn forests; and destroy production.

The Chinese network of loudspeakers along the border and the Chinese propaganda and psychological warfare machinery has not ceased to distort Vietnam's lines and policies, especially in the economic field. Coordinating with the reactionary elements, the Chinese authorities have undermined our policies and measures concerning our people's national construction. They still also resort to money and goods to buy and attract frivolous and profit-seeking people.

In 1985, the Chinese authorities sent more armed boats and ships disguised as fishing trawlers thousands of times into Vietnam's territorial waters from Quang Ninh to Binh Tri Thien to conduct spying and kidnapping operations, threatening the normal life of Vietnamese fishermen. They have also sent fighter aircraft hundreds of times over the border area. Several of these flights have encroached on the airspace of Lai Chau, Ha Tuyen, and Cao Bang provinces 5 to 10 km inside Vietnamese airspace. As stated above, the Chinese acts of war have permanently strained the situation along the Sino-Vietnamese border, especially in Ha Tuyen Province.

The Vietnamese people have always sought to restore the long-standing friendship with the Chinese people. They have performed many deeds of good will to ease the tense situation and settle problems arising from the relations between the two countries through negotiations and talks. However, we also clearly realize the nature and plots of the enemy and have remained constantly vigilant to resolutely counterattack the enemy's shelling and land-grabbing activities.

In the spirit of firmly defending every inch of the country's sacred land and the sovereignty and security of the border area, in 1985 the people and troops in the border localities, especially the frontline units, have established realistic combat projects and have conducted training relevant to their assigned mission. They have remained constantly vigilant and adopted effective combat tactics.

Many collectives and combatants, especially on the battlefront of Ha Tuyen Province, have set the examples of resourceful and courageous combat by scoring glorious armed exploits. In 1985, the combatants in the various border outposts and strongholds can be said to have repelled all the enemy attacks to firmly defend their assigned areas. They have eradicated and destroyed many enemy units, including major ones, killed thousands of aggressors, and destroyed many of their war facilities. Moreover, the people and troops in the border localities have detected, arrested, and eradicated many Chinese scouts and commandos, and have firmly maintained social order and public security. At the same time, our people and troops have continually struggled very effectively against the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage. The year of 1986 is near. In implementing the two strategic tasks of building and defending the socialist fatherland, our people and troops must remain constantly vigilant and be ready to fight because the situation in 1985 shows that the enemy has not changed its nature and hostile policy.

TO HUU SPEAKS AT BORDER IDEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

BK271015 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Dec 85 p 1

[VNA Report]

[Text] The second conference on ideological work in the northern border districts was held 2-4 December by the party Central Committee Propaganda and Training Department. Attending the conference were representatives from the party Central Committee Office; the ministries of National Defense, Interior, and Culture; the State Planning Commission; the Border Defense Command; and various organs, sectors, and mass organizations at the central level. Also present were more than 300 representatives from all border provinces, districts, and villages and various sisterhood provinces and cities. Comrade To Huu, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Mininsters, and Comrade Hoang Tung, secretary of the party Central Committee, attended and addressed the conference.

After reviewing ideological work in the border districts and villages, the conference unanimously set forth guidelines for ideological work in the days ahead. This was aimed at continuing to build a truly firm and stable ideological front, struggling to master this front in all places and at all times, and resolutely and actively counterattacking and smashing all enemy schemes and tricks of psychological warfare and ideological sabotage to constantly ensure victory on the ideological front. The specific duties of those engaged in ideological work involve constantly nurturing and promoting the traditions of patriotism, love for socialism, national unity, army-people solidarity, and persistence in the struggle to ensure national and political security in the border areas and defeat the Chinese reactionaries in their landgrabbing attacks and multifaceted war of sabotage; as well as fostering self-reliance; stepping up production; and satisfactorily organizing material and cultural life in a way that suits the fighting and combat readiness conditions. This is necessary in contributing to the task of making the party, administration, and various mass organizations firm and strong.

Addressing the conference on behalf of the party Central Committee, Comrade To Huu warmly commended the people of all nationalities and the Armed Forces in all areas along the northern border for their solidarity and heroism in firmly defending the country's borderline.

He said: In recent years, various border districts and villages have vigorously developed the spirit of self-reliance. Model combat villages and fortress districts have emerged everywhere. We have also recorded initial successes on the economic front, which affirm that the people of all nationalities in these districts and villages are fully capable of instilling self-reliance and fulfilling their obligation to the state.

After pointing out the enemy's schemes and tricks, Comrade To Huu urged the Armed Forces and people of all nationalities in all border provinces and districts to strengthen solidarity, enhance revolutionary awareness, and resolutely intensify national security and defense in areas close to the border with the aim of building all border districts into steel fortresses in all aspects -- military, political, and economic. Each citizen along the border must be a soldier who can master every stream, every forest area, and every inch of land in his locality. All party committee and administrative echelons must pay great attention to caring for the material and cultural life of the people of all nationalities and firmly gaining their confidence. They must also pay attention to comprehensive economic development by quickly delineating land in every village; stepping up afforestation and weaving; planting cotton and other industrial crops; and processing farm products and food in combination with animal husbandry, the construction of water conservancy and hydroelectric projects, and the establishment of communication networks.

It is necessary for all border provinces to urgently train and foster a contingent of state economic management cadres from among the local people while paying attention to cultural and educational tasks, the elimination of illiteracy, and the formulation of plans for the admission of children of various ethnic minority groups to schools on a priority basis. With regard to ideological work, all localities should apply the methods that suit or are close to realities and should avoid various perfunctory forms. This work is aimed at motivating and guiding our compatriots in learning the good and nice things from our ancestors and promoting our traditions of unity and indomitability so as to fulfill the two strategic tasks of successfully building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

'MILITARY SPECIALIST' ON PRC BORDER INCIDENTS

HK311138 Hong Kong AFP in English 1125 GMT 31 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi, Dec 31 (AFP) -- Recent Chinese border attacks on Vietnam were to boost the morale of Thailand and the Cambodian resistance and probe for weak points in Vietnam's border defences, a military specialist said here today. "The increase in incidents in recent weeks had a mainly symbolic purpose, aimed at strengthening the morale of China's Thai and Khmer (Cambodian resistance) allies," the specialist told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. But at the same time, "the Chinese are taking advantage of (the attacks) to test our defence capabilities, and if they find a weak point they will attack."

Since the beginning of this month, the Vietnamese press has noted Chinese shelling and incursions in a number of border areas untouched since the two countries fought a brief but bloody border war in 1979. Hitherto, incidents have been confined to the Vi Xuyen region in the north, but on Saturday attacks were reported at Ha Lang in the northwestern province of Cao Bang and in the northeastern maritime province of Quang Ninh. Vietnam is watching particularly closely the situation in Cao Bang Province, where, Vietnamese military officers said, China could be planning to create a new flashpoint.

The areas of Ha Lang, where a Chinese battalion attacked Saturday, and Tra Linh, shelled the same day, are particularly vulnerable because they are "relatively isolated in a region where communications are difficult," Vietnamese military sources said. Vietnamese military officers have estimated that China has a division of about 100,000 border guards facing Cao Bang, but there have been no reports of any recent strengthening of this force. China has also threatened military reprisals against Vietnam if Vietnamese troops in Cambodia attack Thailand, but this in itself has not provoked particular concern among officials here. "It is not the first time that China has made such threats," the military specialist said. "At the moment, the situation is not too serious and there is no question of strengthening our border forces."

The stepped-up border attacks followed a visit to Beijing at the beginning of this month by leaders of the Khmer Rouge, the Beijing-backed member of the tripartite Cambodian resistance. At that time, China promised to put increased military pressure on Vietnam to ease the situation on the Cambodian border, observers said here. Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said during a visit to Bangkok last week that China would take "active measures" against Vietnam if its troops in Cambodia attacked Thailand.

Vietnamese officials have reacted cautiously to the latest incidents, saying that Mr. Wu's remarks were aimed at "inciting Thailand to oppose the three Indochinese nations." Western diplomats here judged today that China was increasing pressure on Vietnam to ensure its credibility, but that "it is not likely that major operations are planned in the immediate future."

RUMORS ABOUT GRAIN SALES, NEW CURRENCY REFUTED

OW271315 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Dear friends: Recently, rumors have been circulating in Hanoi that, beginning in January 1986, each cadre, worker, and civil servant will be supplied by the state only 25 kilos of grain each month, and all other people must buy grain at commercial prices. In view of this fabrication, the Hanoi radio station has met with and interviewed, the comrade director of the Hanoi grain service on the origin of these rumors. Following is his official answer:

This news is completely false. The Hanoi grain service's way of serving the people is still by conducting sales according to current procedures at the grain stores. Nothing has changed. All those allowed to buy grain still use ration books or cards to buy grain, in accordance with the criteria set for occupations and age groups and at state-prescribed prices.

Also, according to the Hanoi radio station, miscreants have been spreading false rumors about our state going to scrap large-denomination bills and keeping only small-denomination bills in circulation. These rumors have caused confusion among the people and sent people on a rush to buy commodities, thus causing market commodity prices to skyrocket. Faced with the situation, a Hanoi radio station reporter has interviewed the comrade director of the Hanoi Bank. Following is his answer:

This is an ill-intentioned fabrication designed to cause confusion among the people. Since 14 September 1985, when we started applying the money-exchange decree, the new currency circulation has remained normal. All state banks have ensured that all cash requirements are met by all economic units. Our state has adopted many measures to ensure normal and increasingly stable circulation of the new currency.

MOKHTAR GIVES YEAR-END PRESS STATEMENT 30 DEC

BK301305 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 CMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja believes that Indonesia's bilateral ties with the PNG have proceeded well and smoothly. In a year-end press statement today, Mokhtar attributed the excellent state of affairs to the goodwill shown by both the Indonesian and PNG Governments which want to upgrade and maintain the harmonious relations. However, the common border problem still requires great attention, especially the problem of border crossers.

As for relations with Australia, Mokhtar said bilateral relations have proceeded reasonably well despite the existence of some irritants, especially the attitude of certain Australian media and political groups. Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke's acknowledgment of Indonesia's sovereignty over East Timor has successfully improved the situation and greatly strengthened bilateral relations and cooperation for the future.

Meanwhile, Mokhtar is scheduled to lead an Indonesian delegation to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers meeting to be held in Fez, Morocco, on 6-10 January 1986. Piror to the foreign ministers meeting, a meeting of ICO senior officials will be held on 4-5 January. The meeting in Morocco will discuss the Islamic world situation, Middle East conflicts, the Palestinian problem, [words indistinct] which up to now is still occupied by Israel, the Iran-Iraq war, Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and cooperation among Islamic countries in socioeconomic and sociocultural fields.

Views East Timor Issue

BK301558 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja views 1985 as a year of success for Indonesia's diplomatic struggle on the East Timor issue in international forums. In a year-end press statement in Jakarta today, Minister Mokhtar also attributed this success to the support of friendly countries. According to Minister Mokhtar, Indonesia has succeeded in foiling enemy attempts to raise the East Timor issue in various international forums such as the United Nations, the Human Rights Commission, the Nonaligned Movement, the International Parliamentary Organization, and the European Parliament. He said that Indonesia will continue to abide by President Suharto's directives on special and coordinated efforts to counter enemy tactics in the 1986 UN General Assembly session and other international forums.

MURDANI, MOKHTAR MAKE CHRISTMAS VISIT TO TIMOR

BK301344 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 26 Dec 85 p 11

[Text] Dili East Timor, Wednesday [25 December], MERDEKA -- Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Armed Forces Commander General Benni Murdani, and their wives celebrated Christmas together with Indonesian Armed Forces personnel and civilians in East Timor on Tuesday, according to Television of the Republic of Indonesia in Jakarta on Wednesday night.

In his message, Gen Benni Murdani asked "those" still in the mountains to come down immediately to carry out development for the sake of the people's well-being. The armed forces commander reminded them not to waste time in the mountains and urged them to carry out development. Gen Benni Murdani is in East Timor as part of his working visit to regions.

KOMPAS ON CANBERRA PROTEST AGAINST MOKHTAR

BK301335 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 19 Dec 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Canberra, KOMPAS -- Dozens of demonstrators lodged their protests over the integration of East Timor into Indonesia when Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja arrived in the Din Melbourne Hotel on Wednesday [18 December] for a luncheon hosted by local businessmen. The protest demonstration was more unruly than an earlier one in front of the National Press Club in Canberra on Tuesday. This was reported by KOMPAS correspondent, Savitri Scherer, from Canberra.

Meanwhile, a total of 24 Labor Party MP's, including the left-wing and center-left factions, also wrote an open protest note to Mokhtar stating that the East Timor issue has indeed been an irritant to bilateral relations since 1975. The strained bilateral relations will continue until the Indonesian Government agrees to "correct the erroneous grounds for annexing East Timor". The protest note also said that the East Timorese people continue to wage a struggle to resist a series of Indonesian armed forces' military operations, while at the same time, the Indonesian Government has failed to improve the economy of East Timor. The open protest note was signed by members of parliament from the Canberra constituency, such as John Langmore from the center-left faction, Gerry Hand from the left-wing faction, and Senator Gordon McIntosh, well known for his anti-Indonesian stand.

The protest note also stressed that the Australian Government's recognition of the East Timor integration process into Indonesian territory in 1979 has never been supported by the Australian people. The note stated: "We strongly believe that the duty to correct the wrong situation in East Timor remains in the hands of the Indonesian Government," while at the same time demanding that the Indonesian Government allow East Timor be put under international trusteeship and make efforts to see a just and comprehensive solution to the problem. To achieve this end, the East Rimor Revolutionary Front for Liberation [FRETILIN] must be included in the negotiations to resume talks already started under UN supervision in 1983.

Speaking to KOMPAS before leaving Camberra for Melbourne on Wednesday Mokhtar firmly rejected the contents of the protest note. He said: "obviously, the signatories are ignorant about talks held between Indonesia and the UN secretary general on the East Timor problem. They should know that the integration of East Timor into Indonesia is in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the East Timor people."

Mokhtar added that "the Indoensian Government does not have the duty to correct what is wrong because it was Fretilin that elected to resort to violent means thereby obstructing the process of self-determination already agreed upon by Portugal, Indonesia, and political groups set up by the Portuguese Government in 374, namely the Timorese Democratic People's Association [APODETI], the Democratic Union of Timor [UDT], and the Fretilin. But it was Fretilin that refused to attend a meeting in Macau and even resorted to violent means to defeat the two other political groups when the Indonesian Government was called upon to help restore peace and order in the former colony. At that time, we were willing to resume the process of self-determination under the formal supervision of a neighboring country. We were aware that the Australian Government strongly supported the nonviolent process but then it turned out that it was unable and unwilling to supervise the self-determination process. For this reason, Indonesia has rejected the charges contained in the protest note signed by the 24 Labor Party members of parliament."

Mokhtar said that even though he can accept some views expressed in the note, he pointed out that "several events cited in the note are untrue" among other things, the allegation that East Timor is a closed area for international supervision agencies. The fact is that several international agencies have already visited it, including a fact-finding mission of Australian members of Parliament led by Bill Morrison (currently Australian ambassador to Indonesia), who later presented a positive report on the visit.

When asked whether Australia ranks highest in Indonesia's foreign relations, Mokhtar said: "As a friendly neighboring country, Australia definitely ranks highest." However, he declined to elaborate on whether Australia ranks higher or lower than the PNG in Indonesia's foreign relations priorities. On the same occasion, Mokhtar also managed to express his annoyance over Australia's inclination to "interfere in other people's internal affairs even though Indonesia does not normally like having disputes with anyone."

However, the foreign minister described his visit to Australia as a very successful one and a winding down [two preceding words in English] process of the past dispute. When asked whether the visit is a preliminary preparation for President Suharto's visit in the near future, Mokhtar said: "It all depends on President Suharto himself as to whether he is willing to visit Australia or not, but the Australian Government's invitation has long been accepted by the Indonesian Government".

Mokhtar is scheduled to leave Melbourne for Manila on Wednesday night to attend the funeral of former Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo.

SUHARTO CALLS FOR VIGILANCE AFTER TV STATION FIRE

BK300539 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] President Suharto has made it clear that all Information Department personnel, especially those working at the Radio Republik Indonesia [RRI] and the Television of Republic of Indonesia [TVRI], must increase their vigilance. Information Minister Harmoko said this to newsmen after reporting to President Suharto at the Merdeka Palace this morning on the fire gutting the operational facilities of the Indonesian television station in Jakarta early this morning. Minister Harmoko said that President Suharto considers information media, especially the RRI and the TVRI, as a tool not only for making development programs a success but also for increasing national vigilance. As for details on President Suharto's guidelines and the fire gutting the television station, Information Minister Harmoko will give a briefing after this news bulletin.

MERDEKA ON 10-YEAR SENTENCE FOR BANK BOMBING

BK301444 Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 24 Dec 85 p 11

[Excerpt] Jakarta, Monday [23 December], MERDEKA -- A council of judges of the Central Jakarta District Court today sentenced Robby Permana Pantow, a defendant in the case of the explosions at Bank Central Asia building, to 10 years imprisonment after being found guilty of committing this subversive offense. The council of judges comprising Sofyan Khaeruddin as presiding judge and Aca Sonjaya and Alip Hamzah as members found the defendant guilty of setting off the blasts with Amir Wijaya providing the explosive devices. Prosecutors Albert Nadeak and Sunaryo earlier demanded 17 years imprisonment for the defendant, who was formerly a private employee.

MARCOS SPEECH AT 30 DEC OLONGAPO MASS RALLY

HK301446 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in Tagalog 1015 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Address by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos at a mass rally in Olongapo City, Zambales Province -- live; passages in quotation marks spoken in English]

[Text] Thank you very much, Mayor Dick Gordon, the number one mayor! And this is not meant lightly after what the mayor has said about me. [announcer says there is a temporary breakdown of equipment; Marcos resumes after 2 minutes] ... the candidate for vice president, Arturo Tolentino. [applause] Distinguished guests, especially our foreign guests, those from Subic Naval Base, Colonel [name indistinct], we greet them and thank them on behalf of 54 million Filipinos. "In the name of the Republic of the Philippines and of the 54 million people who constitute the Filipino nation, we extend to Admiral [name indistinct] and his men here in Subic all the gratitude for their helping the survivors of [words indistinct]. These survivors were helped by [words indistinct]." Let us give them a hand, [applause] "The U. S. naval hospital," and [words indistinct], "and all the other [words indistinct] and the American people and the American Navy, for the Filipino people not only here in Olongapo [words indistinct]." Let us clap for them again. [applause] How do we say that in Ilocano [phrase spoken in Ilocano] -- those big ocean waves, but not just waves, but a surge of love; that is waht fills our hearts now when we witness your reception of this humble servant here in your city.

According to those attending here, the newspaper correspondents, there are some 100,000 here tonight to welcome your humble servant and his people [words indistinct].

"I wished to come to Olongapo and to Zambales on the day that we call Jose Rizal day, because on this day, our martyr, the great Jose Rizal, who in his writings laid down the moral basis for the revolution of 1896 [words indistinct]. And it was he who pointed out to all Filipinos that they were one" -- that we must unite so as to overcome the oppression of the foreigners, the Spaniards who held our nation captive. This is also where a world famous man comes from, a president whose name reverberates throughout our land, the man who fought the communist threat. "He was the number one fighter against communists during the years of the 1950's. It was President Ramon Magsaysay. [applause] I have therefore come once again in order to [words indistinct]."

[Passage indistinct] ... "a part of the new government, a danger that may cost the lives of [words indistinct] and millions of our people. I will [words indistinct] of the young 21-year-old officer, a question he asked me: Do you think they will remember what we fought for?" Will they remember us? And my reply was: If they remember Gregorio del Pilar at Tirad Pass and [words indistinct] Aguinaldo [words indistinct], do you not think they will remember that we have died on Mount Samat, because we are thousands [words indistinct] -- "die rather than surrender!" [applause]

Those of my comrades, the thousands, [words indistinct], so you know why our heroes' shrine in Bataan was erected where five Filipino soldiers perished -- that is where the heroes' shrine is erected. [applause] When we climbed the summit of Mount Samat and looked down, we saw Olongapo and Subic Naval Base. Forgive me, as I have a cold that I caught on National Heroes' Day [words indistinct]. There we were, all us young men; [laughter] it was drizzling and we stood there and took off our hats and umbrellas and raincoats. Then suddenly it rained; then all the guerrilla leaders got sick!

As Arturo Tolentino just said, we are all able-bodied men. We have had thorough checkups for every part of our bodies. [laughter] If you look at us, we look 40, 45, 46 years old -- but if you ask my wife, " my medical age is 25!" [laughter and applause]

[Passage indistinct]. Well now, I can see that you ears are tuned to me, but your eyes are all focused on the first lady! [laughter]

To go back to the battle at Mount Samat, why is it that I lived and the others died? [Sentence indistinct]. Often I feel pain in my left knee, which sustained a shrapnel wound that cut the tendon. This is why I sometimes can not walk straight. So I tell myself: "The answer of the warrior coming from battle [words indistinct] when he was not [words indistinct].

[Passage indistinct]. Whenever my knee hurts, I remember what he told me: "I am a champion and therefore I act like a champion." [applause] And so I go walking straight no matter how painful. "Once a champion, act like a champion!" [applause] These are the memories of one who was wounded during the war. If you ask me if I could go back to that age of (?26), would I do everything [words indistinct]? When we went on patrol, all those men with me [words indistinct].

[Passage indistinct] "... when I was not unconscious." It turns out there was a Japanese soldier there hunting for me, looking for Marcos. There I was, having sustained two wounds in Pampanga [words indistinct].

[Passage indistinct] we gazed down at Olongapo and at Manila, "and we said goodbye to all our beloved," and then I was in the death march, [words indistinct]. So when I am in Olongapo, I feel the closeness of Mount Samat in Zambales; I remember "all those dreams, our illusions for a vision [words indistinct] in order that we will die for a [word indistinct] and peaceful gathering like this and talk about freedom." We can now talk of liberty, justice, honor. [Sentence indistinct]. "And I imagine Jose Rizal, looking from above," looking down on those of us and [words indistinct]. He asks if we have rescued our country and uplifted it. When I came here in 1943 to 1944, along with other guerrilla leaders, and we met people like Ramon Magsaysay...it now makes me think that we should strive to honor that greatness. [applause] [Sentence indistinct]. "You answered the call that was sounded by the guerrilla leaders from USAFE [U.S. Army in the Far East] -- we will join, we will fight to the death, for the protection of all generations of people and get our dignity as a race."

So now we are here, not as guerrillas -- but with thoughts of "justice for our country." What we ask now is not for you to offer your lives or to give up your wealth or honor. We ask that once again you help us and unite so as to fight against the enemies of the Republic, fight like Ramon Magsaysay did against the communists -- for justice, honor, and liberty! [applause]

"We do not ask this"; we do not ask that you help Marcos and Tolentino and the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan and Mayor Gordon and our leaders here. What we ask is that you help the Republic of the Philippines! [applause]

[Sentence indistinct]. "What will happen to our country after February 7, 1986? Shall we allow the foreign and godless ideology to run the government of the Republic of the Philippines [words indistinct]? Shall we allow a [words indistinct] candidate of the opposition to run the government [words indistinct]? You know who they are? Who are advising [words indistinct]? They are all the pinkos and the communists who are well known throughout the Philippines. We have been fighting them since 1972. None of them has received [words indistinct], hundreds of millions.

Many of them have attempted to kidnap and assassinate not only the American ambassador and even former Minister Carlos P. Romulo and [words indistinct] secretary of national defense in broad daylight by the city hall in Manila, by the convention hall in the city hall of Quezon City, planted demolitions in the Supreme Court of the Philippines, and, as I said, seven times attempted to assassinate your president. Is this the kind of society that we want? That happened in Indonesia when President Sukarno allowed the communists to take over some seats in the cabinet and appointed communist generals in the Armed Forces of the Indonesian Government. What happened? The time came when those communists attempted to take over the entire government. They killed all the noncommunist generals; they killed all the noncommunist members of the cabinet, and there was a revolution. President Suharto, who was present in the surroundings of Jakarta, in command of the [word indistinct] Division, was lucky to have been present at the time and he waged war against the communists. How many died? Seven hundred thousand to one million civilians. Shall we allow this to heppen in our country? I say: Never! Never should we allow this kind of danger." [Words indistinct].

[Passage indistinct] ... while there is still time, open your eyes, we are again facing danger and we must help our people. What has happened in South America? Is it not the same thing as happened in Indonesia? The communists tried to take power. This is why we ask you not to let the power be taken away from you. We must fight the enemy like Ramon Magsaysay did.

[Sentence indistinct] Those people in the opposition, what do the candidates say? They are trying to be all things to all people. [Passage indistinct]... "to have the 6,000 hectares of Hacienda Luisita to be put under land reform, so in that matter [words indistinct]. She has money. They say" we are the ones with hidden wealth in America; what about themselves? They are the ones hiding money in America. They say they have photos and documents about our supposed wealth. When there was a debate over the impeachment proceddings, they were asked who took those photos. All those buildings, where are they? [Passage indistinct]. They were not able to answer.

One of those who refuted them was Teddy Natividad of the National Police Commission. He said he teaches about crime at the university, but those alegations of the oppositions, where is the proof? [Passage indistinct]"... the language of the gutter that I have never heard since." That is not all -- they have lied [words indistinct] M.P. Rafael Recto said: "That is a forgery and a falsification because [words indistinct]." What did the opposition reply? Nothing. They were shamefaced. It turns out everything was falsified. Is that being honest, sincere, and truthful? [Passage indistinct].

"They want the best of both worlds." [Passage indistinct]. They really are amateurs. "In the history of the world, this have never happened. He who rides the tiger gets eaten by the tiger." And if you let this beast into the government, it will eat up everything. The communists will take over and take everything away from us. They say they will effect all sorts of reforms to do away with what Marcos has done. So what reforms are they talking about? [Sentence indistinct]. "When we came to power in 1965, the Philippines had been independent only 19 years. I have been president longer than that 19 years. [Words indistinct], I ask myself: [Words indistinct]." [Passage indistinct]... And we said then: We will go back, we will build a new society where all men will be equal." All will be equal, the janitor's son or the land-owner's son. [Sentence indistinct]. "And so I wrote the Filipino ideology." [applause]

"I have written many books, including the History of the Philippines, which is supposed to be composed of 19 volumes."

I have written about the democratic revolution. I have written about the fact that the true revolution comes from the poor because they are the ones that [words indistinct] our("?active) society, especially the tenants, the laborers. And so we have agrarian reform." And we gave our peasants titles and we made sure that the little man was able to go to the bank to borrow funds. [passage indistinct].

So will our opponents do away with all this? Will they do like the communists and take away all the land from the peasants because they do not believe in ownership except by the state, "and nobody else?" [applause] "How about education? Under the Communist Party, education is decided by the state and by the government." I remember the days when I was a soldier -- when we were on patrol [passage indistinct] there were so many Japanese and I had to lecture to my comrades about freedom, about honor and right. One of the men said to me he had a 1-year-old son. He said to me: You know how to read and write, but I do not. I would like my boy to grow up to be a lawyer, like you. I do not want him to remain ignorant like myself. [passage indistinct].

There was this man, and as we were attacked by the Japanese, he was hit and sustained a wound in the back of his head. As he lay dying, he told me to look after his son, to make sure he got an education. He asked me to promise this to him and I gave him my word. [words indistinct] "because that was the ambition for which all our forebears gave up their lives because the challenge [words indistinct] on our education, while the American colonizers established a national educational system in the Philippines." So I sent that boy to school and he is now a lawyer." He would not like me to mention his name.

[Passage indistinct] "A democracy cannot thrive in a [word indistinct] atmosphere [words indistinct] what happened to them and who [words indistinct]. And it became my ambition as president to change the spirit of the Filipino people. And we can [words indistinct], a land of production, and [words indistinct]."

[Passage indistinct] "In 1934, the Hare-Hayes Cutting Act was approved by the American Congress. This included a commitment for the Philippines to set aside areas for American military bases [words indistinct]."

"There was a refugee government in the United States headed by President Quezon. The American Congress approved a resolution authorizing the American president to open up the negotiations with the refugee government to include the establishment of bases that would stabilize the military situation in Asia. [words indistinct] President Quezon approved the resolution. This resolution [words indistinct] in 1946, and the resolution was approved authorizing the incumbent president [words indistinct] military bases. This was submitted to the Filipino people and this was approved almost unanimously by the Filipino people. [Sentence indistinct]."

[Passage indistinct] "and every time there was an election -- especially a presidential election -- this issue became a [words indistinct], a controversy to be decided by the people, [words indistinct] not only by President Macapagal, but myself.
[Words indistinct] the opinion of the Filipinos was clear and that opinion was: Keep the military bases in the Philippines. [applause] What was the basic reason [words indistinct] of the Philippine Government? [sentence indistinct]. And the Filipino people always upheld the position, that we must establish a military balance here in Asia among all the countries [words indistinct], especially the superpowers. If one superpower is here, the other superpower holds a balance [words indistinct]. Why? Because the United Nations are incapable of [words indistinct] Korea, the Congo, and the Middle East war. And it was not capable of maintaining peace and order in any part of the world. [words indistinct], and so it was necessary to resort to the principle of the military balance of power in order that there may be no war in Asia.

For if there is a war in Asia, we have an agreement that [word indistinct]. Why? Because the bases have [words indistinct] this location. When you look at a map you will see that the Philippines is a [words indistinct] Pacific and South China Sea, [words indistinct] Malacca Straits, Sunda Straits, and the other strait between Java and Sumatra and [words indistinct]." [Passage indistinct].

"It is not only the United States that [words indistinct] the establishment of military bases in the Philippines. [Passage indistinct] and so, for the principles on which we stand remain unchanged -- it is to the advantage of the Philippines and to the advantage of the United States that the American facilities in the Philippine bases be maintained in the Philippines." [applause]

[Passage indistinct] it is not just our well-being that concerns us. As Mayor Gordon said a while ago, without the bases we will all be unemployed. We will have no jobs. We are thinking of the well-being of the entire country. "We stand here on principles [words indistinct] because security is not a matter for (?factual) political football. [applause] The opposition is making it as something that can be treated as [word indistinct]. I understand [words indistinct] said: We will remove the bases. [Sentence indistinct]. Is that how we will negotiate the treaty of this government?"

[Passage indistinct] so their association with the NPA is a temporary political advantage. What pitiful little children they are. [Passage indistinct].

Now that we are facing an election, what are the government's plans? "Do we have a lack of organization, a lack of government programs?" On the other side, everything they do is extemporaneous, childish thinking -- is that the way to run a government?

"I want to call your attention to the fact that there is not a [words indistinct] opposition group that has even [words indistinct] complete program of government [words indistinct]."

[Passage indistinct] my children taught me when I was younger, do not ever go against a woman. [Passage indistinct].

We ask you therefore to vote for the Marcos-Tolentino ticket! [applause]

Long live Olongapo!

Tolentino Speech

HK301426 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in Tagalog 0937 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Address by Philippine vice presidential candidate Arturo Tolentino at a mass rally in Olongapo City, Zambales Province -- live, monitored in progress -- passages in quotation marks spoken in English]

[Text] The other side has no government platform and has nothing to say except to seek revenge. Vengeance is not a government platform nor a government program. If a government only seeks vengeance, those who suffer are the people and the nation's interests. Do not forget this come election day. [applause]

Countrymen, what do they know in foreign affairs? Their presidential candidate had an interview with an American journalist on foreign affairs. I know something about this subject as I was minister of foreign affairs, even though for just a short while. President Marcos and I had a few differences.

What shall we say are the issues in foreign affairs? She was asked. There are two: one being the military bases, and the second, um, I forgot. Let me remember. The interview was interrupted. When it was resumed, the journalist repeated the question for her: What is the second issue in foreign affairs? I don't remember.

How can she be a presidential candidate? How can she be a president when she cannot even remember the outstanding issues? When asked about her stand on the military bases agreement, she wanted abrogation of the military bases agreement -- the removal of military bases in the Philippines.

Fellow countrymen, let me tell you quite honestly that while still a congressman, I was among those who advocated the removal of military bases in the Philippines. At that time, the agreement provided for 99-year retention of the military bases in the country and the Americans were to run the bases exclusively. So, I said, remove the bases. However, under the leadership of President Marcos, the 99 years was reduced to 25 years, and it will thus expire in 1991. Moreover, every 5 years a review of the bases agreement is conducted. This was achieved under the leadership of President Marcos.

You will also see that the Philippine flag flies proudly over the bases and the Americans recognize the full sovereignty of the Philippines over the military bases. This was also attained under the leadership of President Mracos. "That is why, my friends, I support the policy of President Marcos with respect to the military bases. I am not for the abrogation of the military bases, because the abrogation of this agreement will bring hardship upon thousands and thousands of our people." [applause]

Like what Mayor Gordon said, there are now some 30,000 employees who work on the bases. Can you imagine what will happen to these 30,000 should the bases be closed? Some 30,000 families, and how many are in each family? The opposition only thinks of more suffering for the people, while President Marcos thinks of the welfare of the nation. "We are thinking of the security of the Philippine Republic."

Let me tell you that during the brief period when I was the minister of foreign affairs, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, we often talked about the military bases in the Philippines, and they said that it is their belief that the presence of military bases in the Philippines in a guarantee of regional security in East Asia. In other words, it is not only the source of security for our Republic but for the entire East Asian region as well. [Passage indistinct]. "That is why I take this opportunity to make it clear."

As I recall, there are now resolutions submitted by the opposition in the Batasan calling for abrogation, immediate abrogation of the military bases. We are holding hearings in the committee that I chair, the committee on foreign affairs of foreign relations, and we are holding hearings on the resolution for the abrogation of the military bases.

Ordinarily, as chairman of the committee, I am not supposed to air my views on the issue. We are supposed to wait until the end of the hearing and then meet before announcing our decision. However, I would like to inform you now that in our hearings, the majority of the committee members are in favor of the retention of the military bases here in the Philippines. [applause] Thus, while I may have violated rules in declaring my feelings on such matters of confidentiality, I will break that rule and affirm that Tolentino, like Marcos, is in favor of the retention of the military bases in the Philippines. [applause]

However, it is not simply retention. There should be negotiations whereby we could draw the greatest gains from the Americans' use of the bases. "We must negotiate in order to obtain the maximum advantage for the Filipino people for the use of the military bases by the Americans."

In so doing, we need a strong, determined, and forceful negotiator. And should the president require the services of Tolentino as a negotiator, Tolentino is willing to be a negotiator in this affair. [applause]

I have violated the rule that says a committee chairman should not air his views on issues publicly. I have announced my views in taking sides on a resolution before the Batasang Pambansa. Should I infuriate the Batasan Pambansa with this move and be stripped of my chairmanship of the committee on foreign affairs, my countrymen, I do not mind, because I have spoken my true convictions, and as vice presidential candidate, I do not need the position of chairman of the committee on foreign affairs. [applause]

You know that it is risky to elect the opposition to replace President Marcos. You must have heard the reasoning behind this. More than two-thirds of the Batasang Pambansa membership is in the hands of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan. If you elect a member of the opposition as president, what will happen? First of all, the new president will remove the prime minister who happens to be KBL.

According to our Constitution, the prime minister appointed by the president must be endorsed by the Batasan Pambansa. Thus, if the opposition's president should name a new prime minister, the nomination will not push through in the Batasan. [Passage indistinct] the position of the prime minister will be vacant. "The prime minister is the head of the cabinet, therefore, the cabinet will have no head. But more than that," the president from the opposition will try to dissolve the Batasang Pambansa because the majority of the Batasang Pambansa belong to the KBL. However, "under the Constitution, the president cannot dissolve the Batasang Pambansa unless such is recommended by the prime minister on the basis of a fundamental issue that needs to be returned to the people for their decision." In other words, even if the new president seeks to dissolve the Batasang Pambansa, nothing will come of it. There will be a fight between the president and the legislature, resulting in a constitutional crisis, which in turn will lead to instability and even the downfall of the Philippine Government.

"In order to avoid such constitutional crisis, let us be sure that the man in Malacanang, the president, belongs to the same party that is in the majority in the Batasang Pambansa so that there can continuous cooperation between the president and the Batasang Pambansa. And therefore, it is in the interest of the nation and of the Filipino people to elect Marcos and Tolentino."

Countrymen, my rival always tells people that Tolentino is old and that he is young. Friends, age is not placed on time perspectives but on health. Last year, I had a medical checkup, and I took all the special tests. My doctor was astounded by the results, saying that I have the health of a 45-year-old. "If life begins at 40, I am only 5 years old." With the coming new year, I shall be 6 years old.

There is a saying that to see is to believe. You see me with your own eyes. [Passage indistinct].

Friends, let me enumerate my record in public office: I was twice elected congressman, thrice senator, twice assemblyman, 12 years as ambassador to the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. During my terms as congressman, senator, and assemblyman, I was chosen annually as one of the most outstanding congressmen or assemblymen. I don't suppose I would be so chosen if I had no accomplishments. As for my rival, he was also a senator like me, as assemblyman too. However, ask if he had done anything. I personally don't know of anything.

If we are to compare our two records of public service, the choice is obvious. The vice presidency is just a step away from the presidency.

The past record offers the best glimpse of what a vice presidential candidate can do to help the president in government administration. I will not elaborate. You will be the ones to make that judgment.

When I was delegate to the United Nations, I strove to endorse the archipelago doctrine and the exclusive economic zone. Thanks to my efforts and persuasion of diplomats and delegates from all over the world during the conference, the so-called archipelagic doctrine and the exclusive economic zone were adopted.

The significance of the archipelagic doctrine meant that all the waters around our archipelago now fall under Philippine jurisdiction. They were previously designated international waters, and thus, war vessels and fishing boats from other countries could freely enter our waters. They can no longer do so, because the waters now fall under Philippine sovereignty.

As for the 200-mile economic zone, the wealth within the zone is all exclusively owned by the Philippines now. Thus, my friends, I told myself that I have contributed my utmost to the Filipino nation. [Passage indistinct].

What Tolentino did at the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea will benefit not only the present generation, but will also benefit our children, our grandchildren, and the future generation to come.

That's why I guess there is good basis for me to ask you to elect me along with President Marcos on 7 February. I shall not linger any longer as I know that you are anxious to listen to President Marcos. But before I go, I should like to say something more.

On 7 February at the polls, there will be two lines on the ballots. The first line for the president, and the second line for vice president. If you write Marcos on the first line, that is good. However, we do not recommend that you do only that. If you wrote one name, two things will happen: One, the vote will not be counted because you did not fill in a name for vice president. Second, the ballot may be taken by somebody else and the name of my rival filled in, in which case the vote goes to him and not to me. [laughter] We must not make any mistakes. When you vote, write the names of Marcos and Tolentino. [applause]

"You can be sure that your elected team to the highest positions in the land is a team that will bring to the Filipino people and the Philippine Republic democracy, freedom, national integrity, economic and social progress of the people.

"Thank you very much." [applause]

MARCOS COMMENTS ON DECLINE IN INFLATION RATE

HK310401 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The inflation rate continues to decline. President Marcos said yesterday the country's inflation rate has declined further to 5.66 percent in December from a peak of 63.8 percent in October 1984. The president said December is the second consecutive month that single-digit inflation rates were registered all over the country. The chief executive noted that the Philippines is among the nations which has successfully controlled inflation.

PAPER REPORTS VOTERS CAN REGISTER WITHOUT PHOTOS

HK300953 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 29 Dec 85 pp 1, 4

[By Jesus Diaz]

[Text] Qualified voters have until today to register for the Feb 7 election -- even without their pictures. The Commission on Elections [Comelec] yesterday directed the boards of election inspectors in more than 85,000 precincts all over the country to accept the voters' affidavits of registrants even without the four photographs the new electors have been at first required to submit.

"In the absence of the photographs, then the accomplished affidavit (which serves as the application for registration) should be received by the boards without the action in the meantime," Chairman Victorino A. Savellano said. "This may be the basis for subsequent legal remedies."

The mere acceptance of the affidavits however, does not mean the voters are already registered he said. The matter of photos will have to be resolved by the Comelec or the Supreme Court, Savellano said. The Unido has petitioned the Supreme Court for the scrapping of the photo requirement.

"If the Supreme Court says the photos are not needed, then voters who have submitted their affidavits with the election boards will be considered registered," Savellano said. Provisional registration is being allowed at the suggestion of National Citizens Movement for Free Elections [Namflel], its citizens' arm, and the poll body's field men.

Namfrel and Comelec monitoring teams reported that thousands of qualified voters were turned away yesterday for failing to submit the required four photos. In certain areas in Metro Manila, baranggay captains and some local officials volunteered to shoulder the cost of the pictures.

Registration was light yesterday. At precinct 16 at the Balara Elementary School in Quezon City, for instance, there was only one registrant as of 1 p.m. There were none in the other precincts. Elsewhere, there were five to 15 by late yesterday afternoon.

Savellano explained, however that only an average of 30 voters per precinct was expected to register. The second and final listing day is today, until 4 p.m.

Yesterday's registration was not so smooth. In many precints in Caloocan City, reports reaching Vice Gov Ismael A. Mathay Jr said the teachers of the election boards did not show up. They did not have their appointment papers from their district superintendent. The superintendent, Bienvenido Icasiano, had been replaced last Friday by the Education Ministry, precisely for his failure to issue the appointments early enough. Mathay referred the matter to the Comelec.

At the Quezon City Hall, where there are 11 precincts, registration started late, 10 a.m. The teachers on the election boards complained they had been briefed on their poll duties only that morning. Moreover some election forms were delivered late.

In most precincts in Quezon City, there were no watchers from the Unido, the dominant opposition party. Some came but had no appointment papers from party officials. In Baranggay Nueva in Makati, Namfrel complained that armed men identified as "Bunggay brothers" terrorized registrants, allowing known KBL voters to register while preventing other people.

Other Namfrel complaints:

In Baranggay West Rembo inside Fort Bonifacio, qualified voters were seen registering more than once.

In Baranggay Olympia, also in Makati, many registrants gave the same address: 5020 Olympia St.

Taguig Mayor Levi Mariano offered free photos for registrants. He fielded photographers at registration centers.

The election registars in Pasay City and Marinduque Province allowed voters to register without the photos.

There was a shortage of registration forms in Negros Occidental and Navotas in Metro Manila.

Many teachers were not properly briefed on their duties.

Meanwhile, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fabian Ver met with Comelec officials and offered the services of the military "for a clean, honest and orderly election." He also asked the Comelec if it was possible to allow soldiers to vote in the areas where they are assigned even if registered elsewhere. Savellano said the commission would first find out if the soliders were really registered and then determined if there was enough reason to allow them to vote on Feb. 7 in their places of assignment.

Cebu City -- confusion over who were the representatives of the dominant opposition party (Unido) on the election boards marred the first day of registration in the 3,369 voting centers here, in four other cities and in the rest of Cebu Province. The confusion arose when the representatives named by Unido's city chairperson Maria Victoria (Minnie) Osmena Stuart, were rejected by City Election Registrar Reynaldo Serenal in favor of choices submitted by opposition Members of Parliament Marcelo Fernan and Antonio Cuenco of Panaghiusa. The conflict over campaign leadership in the city between Stuart of Unido and the Panaghiusa was settled only Friday, preventing sufficient notice of changes.

Bullecer also noted a "light turnout" of registrants. But he expects a bigger turnout today he said. As in other places, new voters who came without their required pictures were turned away. Cebu, with 48 towns and five cities, had 1.11 million voters in 1984. An estimated 100,000 will be added for the Feb. 7 elections.

FORMER CPP CHAIRMAN PREDICTS OPPOSITION VICTORY

HK271443 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Dec 85 p 15

[By reporter Teodoro Y. Montelibano]

[Text] The alleged ex-chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] predicts an opposition victory in the Feb. 7 presidential and vice-presidential elections.

Jose Ma. Sison, considered by the government as the former CPP chairman, made the forecast in an interview yesterday in his detention cell inside the military security command in Fort Bonifacio. BUSINESS DAY was furnished copies of transcripts of that interview.

Sison also called on the CPP, the New People's Army and other revolutionary organizations not to campaign for boycott but not to endorse much less support the legal opposition candidates.

Sison's bias for the tandem of Corazon C. Aquino and Salvador H. Laurel is understandable. "Any force seeking to topple tyranny possesses and gains positive worth, and is acceptable," he said referring to the opposition candidates. It is not clear, however, whether or not Sison has formally extended his personal support to the opposition and whether or not the opposition formally sought his support.

Being revolutionary organizations, the CPP, NPA and even the National Democratic Front (considered the CPP's legal front) are expected to boycott the poll, Sison said.

This time, however, Sison has called on them to limit their intended poll boycott to the minimum, meaning they should neither campaign for boycott nor endorse the political opposition candidates. Sison claimed that the coming elections were ordered by the administration of United States President (Ronald) Reagan.

A presidential election will absorb the people's outrage over many issues against the Marcos administration, give Marcos a fresh mandate to do its bidding, particularly to suppress the revolutionary movement, and strengthen the pro-U.S. opposition vis-a-vis the Marcos regime and the revolutionary movement, Sison said.

With the election, the Marcos administration intends to "whitewash the assassination of Corazon Aquino's late husband, ex-Senator Benigno Aquino Jr. before the President's already serious health problem deteriorates further." he said. That victory is possible if the election is clean and honest and if the people are sufficiently militated to "frustrate the Marcos scheme of fraud and terrorism" he added.

The opposition, he said, is expected to win in Central Luzon, Metro Manila, Southern Tagalog and the Bicol area, regions where 40 percent of the electorate is concentrated. The opposition can expect a big lead in Western Visayas and a slighter one in Central Visayas. Mindanao will go "heavily for the opposition," Sison said.

For the ruling party to win, Sison claimed, it will have to "cheat on the scale and style of sham voting exercises from political exercises conducted in 1973 till 1978." "Zero votes will be given the opposition tandem in a great number of real and imaginary precincts in the territories of such areas controlled by Ilocos Norte Governor Ferdinand Marcos Jr., Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez, Ambassador Romualdez as well as KBL controlled places like Northern Cebu and others in Mindanao, Sison said.

On the issue of whether to participate of boycott the February polls, Sison said a boycott campaign waged to the maximum extent of asking the people to stay away from the poll and stopping the electoral exercise in as many places as possible will certainly take away votes from the opposition and allow these to be delivered to the President and his running mate.

For the sake of flexibility, the CPP, NPA and NDF, while adhering to revolutionary principles, can limit the boycott to the minimum extent of not openly nor directly participating in the selection of presidential and vice-presidential candidates in the campaign, but refraining from endorsing and supporting the opposition candidates.

But Sison does not "expect much from them (Aquino and Laurel) in terms of outright anti-imperialism and anti-feudalism (but) we can expect much from the opposition tandem in terms of anti-fascism." Sison commended Mrs Aquino for offering ceasefire and negotiation.

Mrs Aquino, in one of her campaign rallies, has stated that if the opposition wins in the poll, she would ask the NPA to lay down their arms for at least six months so they (the NPA) and the leaders of the new government could talk and find out how to tackle together the problems confronting the people.

"Aquino is not arrogant as Mr Marcos is by raving that the revolutionaries or the legal national democratic forces must surrender or be killed," Sison said.

MALAYA COLUMNIST VOICES ELECTION FEARS

HK300759 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 19 Dec 85 pp 4, 5

["Lipad Diwa [Soul's Flight]" column by Sylvia Mayuga: "No Illusions"]

[Text] Okay. So we're having our "campaign of the century", as Mr. & Ms. hyperbol lically puts it, replete with drums and confetti on the Aquino-Laurel side and dirgelike with canned laughter and paid applause on the Marcos-Tolentino side. But, dear fellow-Filipinos, pause a moment from the heady feeling of our first real presidential election since 1965 to remember, first of all, that the foreshortened period -- only 51 more days -- of this snap campaign could just possibly be getting us into a new form of the same crisis we're trying to remedy. If Marcos and Tolentino win, we've signed up for six more years of the KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] and Marcos culture. If Aquino and Laurel win, recent signs point to a recycled form of the elitist politics that engendered Martial Law in the first place.

The UNIDO [United National Democratic Organization] proclamation rally at Liwasang Bonifacio last Sunday took place in what this writer perceived as a time warp. Thirteen years ago in Plaza Miranda was our last experience of this, "giving the people what they want" in campaign speeches that focused on the character flaws of the ruling powers but did not go beyond an inch deeper into the structural reasons they have been free to wreak havoc on the Filipino people.

Like most of you, I am taken by the sweetness and sincerity of Cory Aquino. This is perhaps why I could not help depression setting in when, despite these two years of dams breaking loose with the cries of an enslaved and denigrated majority, UNIDO's emotional appeal did not include the political prisoners, childprostitutes, starving farmers, bloodied laborers, displaced cultural minorities, salvaged church-workers, demolished squatters who suffer most from our obsolescent socio-economic and political order.

Cory is a Christian who abhors violence but she is allied now, by dint of background and political reality, with men and women who are glossing over the subtler forms of violence endemic to our system. Some of them -- and I've met and talked to them myself in many a rally -- would call this point of view "communist" or "leftist" at the very least. The question bothers me. Is all this rush and hurry to defeat Marcos with an increasingly packaged symbol of purity going to be a victory of a class and not a people? "Be ye cunning as serpents and gentle as doves," Christ has admonished. What if Cory is the gentle dove without cunning slowly being ushered to a mere symbolic presidency to be run by a new form of vested interests that will, as of old, forget how we all got here in the first place?

I'm not by any means suggesting resignation to the marcoist status quo. What I'm suggesting is that, for every thousand eager confetti-throwers on the campaign trail, sweet Cory look now with fear and trembling at each and everyone of her advisers to judge — the people's fate in her hands — who of them really represents the poorest of our poor, the weakest of our weak without whose voice an opposition victory would only be a triumph of political "outs" over "ins".

"So you're yellow now," remarked the ABC correspondent Kathleen Barnes as she saw my Cory Aquino for President banner. "No, I'm for the whole rainbow," I found myself answering as I saw for myself at Liwasang Bonifacio how, with only Aquino yellow and Laurel green, the missing reds of BAYAN [New Nationalists Alliance] the oranges of the Humanist Party, the blues and whites of the human rights lawyers, and the activist professionals and businessmen, the purples of the radical clergy would leave a gaping absence in any future decision-making process, should the opposition win.

No democratic government can work without consent from the governed. We know this all too well by now. But in this crisis, we need more than adoring consent. Neither confetti nor yellow fever, a largely middle class phenomenon, is going to bring enough faith and enthusiasm to endure and master harder times ahead.

A genuinely representative government stands a chance, especially as we deal with the Communist Party of the Philippines which, the CIA and the western press notwithstanding, enjoys a very real sympathy in large sectors of our society. That Marcos and America have made it difficult for the Filipino majority to look at them objectively is not the least of our problems now and in the future. Marcos has failed us because his worldview has been limited by Cold War programming. The crisis being what it is, I pray we find a better way, with or without Cory and Doy.

BUSINESS DAY ON KBL, OPPOSITION TACTICS

HK270947 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 26 Dec 85 p 19

[By Raissa Lamson Espinosa]

[Text] Members of the ruling KBL and the opposition differ in their views in gaining votes in the Feb. 7 election. On one hand, KBL stalwarts doubts if the opposition, with its fragmented machinery and inadequate funds, can translate Corazon Aquino's growing popularity into actual votes. Oppositionist leaders, on the other hand, claim that despite KBL's nationwide machinery and immense funding, voters may just pocket doleouts and vote opposition.

The KBI claims voters have to be pampered with free transportation and other inducements while the position says voters are now "highly conscienticized" and will campaign and vote for Mrs. Aquino and her vice-presidential running mate Salvador Laurel.

In separate interviews, KBL and opposition leaders, assessed the strengths and weaknesses of each camp.

"It's a big job. A hard job. And the campaign period is too short," a Metro Manila KBL mayor admitted. While he was confident of a KBL victory, it will not be "by a big big margin."

A source from the KBL think tank said the campaign will aim at the youth through the Kabataang Barangay [Community Youth -- KB]. The poor will be given emphasis through a coordinated effort of government agencies to deliver services such as road repair, lower priced goods, health care, water and other services. The KBL campaign pitch is that promises will be made and promptly delivered, the source said.

The opposition considers Metro Manila its bailiwick. MP Neptali Gonzales (Unido-San Juan, Mandaluyong) said the 16 oppositionist assemblymen have divided themselves into seven teams supported by local political leaders and mayoral aspirants. For instance, MP Manuel Domingo (Unido-Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela) has gotten the support in Navotas of Col. Mariano Santiago, the former Bureau of Land Transportation (BLT) commissioner. Santiago told BUSINESS DAY he is running for mayor; he brandished the "Laban" [Laban ng Bayay -- people's struggle] sign.

Makati Mayor Nemesio Yabut has questioned the opposition's ability to "translate Cory's popularity into votes." He cited lack of funds and the absence of a well-oiled machinery down to the precinct level. In reply, Gonzales said the opposition is making do with what it has, but popular support in the form of campaign materials, funds and manpower has been coming in unsolicited.

MP Jaime Ferrer (Unido-Las Pinas, Paranaque) said in a meeting that people in his area have contributed P100,000, Ferrer said he would not ask any more for party funds. Gonzales said "the people will bring in the votes. If this were not the case, none of us would have won last May." The opposition aims to maximize its gains in Metro Manila to offset the losses in Region I (Ilocos), Region II (Cagayan Valley), the Eastern Visayas and the two autonomous regions in Mindanao, Gonzales explained.

A decentralized machinery has its weaknesses, but Bren Guiao sees its main advantage: "All political groups are supporting the ticket enthusiastically since each one has all the initiative and is respected as a unit." These are the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), Pilipino Democratic Party-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban), Pinaghiusa of Cebu, Concerned Citizens Aggrupation, Muslims Federal Party of the former commissioner on cultural minorities, Abraham Razul, the Timek in Cagayan Valley and the National Union for Liberation of MP Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan, Guiao said.

All oppositionist political parties except for the Liberal Party (Jovito Salonga wing) are one, Guiao claimed. A board of campaign managers representing regional parties coordinates the whole set-up, he added.

Guiao heads a newly reorganized group composed of former campaigners and staff members of the slain Senator Benigno Aquino. About 80 percent of its work is an anti-fraud campaign to be financed solely by its members' contributions.

Meanwhile the KBL camp indicates that the ruling party is exploiting the opposition's being fragmented. One way to do so is to sow intrigues especially among oppositionist mayoral aspirants, a KBL source said. The KBL camp, however, still awaits the infusion of campaign funds, and its intricate political network remains idle.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile recently said: "We have not really started the political campaign. But at least in my area, (Cagayan) I already directed the provincial chairmen to operate the party organization."

Many KBL governors and assemblymen are still in Metro Manila, waiting for the release of party funds. One Metro Manila commission official said the campaign will really start in earnest after the Christmas season.

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